

## Fundamental British values

### What is it?

Through ensuring pupils' SMSC development, Heamoor School also actively promotes fundamental British values. A key part of this, is encouraging pupils to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance. It is expected that pupils should understand that, while different people may hold different views about what is 'right' and 'wrong', all people living in England are subject to its law. The teaching of British Values at Heamoor is part of both our PSHE and RE curriculum.

Schools should promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Actively promoting the values means challenging opinions, or behaviours in school that are contrary to fundamental British values. Through their provision of SMSC, Heamoor School:

- enables pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence;
- enables pupils to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England;
- encourages pupils to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely;
- enables pupils to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England;
- further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling pupils to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures;
- encourages pupils to have respect for other people; and
- encourage pupils to have respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.

### What do we do at Heamoor School to promote British Values?

The list below describes the understanding and knowledge expected of pupils as a result of promoting fundamental British values (some examples of how we cover these at Heamoor are listed after each point in italics):

- an understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process (*School Council voting system which is active in school, classes 'feeding into' the School Council, via their voted class representative, to have an impact on school decisions; learning about the origins of democracy through our Greek history topic; visits and assemblies by local MPs, to describe the voting process, issues important to the local area and how these fit in on a national scale; Year 6 London trip – visit to the Houses of Parliament*);
- an appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their wellbeing and safety (*through both our RE and Jigsaw PSHE curriculum; through our history/topic curriculum- comparisons with other rules of law, which have been held in the past*);
- an understanding that there is a separation of power between the executive and the judiciary, and that while some public bodies such as the police and the army can be held to account through Parliament, others such as the courts maintain independence (*through both our RE and Jigsaw PSHE curriculum*);
- an understanding that the freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law (*through both our RE and Jigsaw PSHE curriculum*);
- an acceptance that other people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated, and should not be the cause of prejudicial, or discriminatory behaviour (*through both our RE and Jigsaw PSHE curriculum*); and
- an understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination (*through both our RE and Jigsaw PSHE curriculum, as well as supporting and empowering the children to stand up for themselves and their peers, in a positive way, through our High 5 anti-bullying programme*).