

Promoting British Values at Giles Junior School

The DfE has reinforced the expectation that all schools must “create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation to 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.” (*Prevent Duty Guidance*, 2023)

At Giles Junior School, keeping children safe and preparing them for life in modern Britain is integral to our provision. We actively promote and embed these values in the following ways:

Democracy

We strongly promote democracy by providing pupils with meaningful opportunities to have their voices heard through our Student Lighthouse Team and pupil voice questionnaires. Elections for Lighthouse Team representatives take place annually. Children who wish to stand for election prepare a short speech for their class, and pupils vote for the candidate they believe will represent them most effectively. This mirrors democratic processes within wider society and teaches pupils the importance of fairness, participation and responsibility.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws—those that govern the class, the school and the country—is consistently reinforced at Giles Junior School. Through assemblies, PSHE lessons, Religion and Worldviews (RW), and our Behaviour and Discipline Policy, pupils learn:

- why laws are necessary
- how laws protect individuals and communities
- the responsibilities that come with living under the rule of law
- the consequences when rules or laws are broken

Pupils also engage in age-appropriate decision-making about school expectations and consequences, helping them take ownership and understand justice, fairness and accountability.

Individual Liberty

Through the principles of the **7 Habits**, pupils are encouraged to make informed choices within a safe, nurturing environment. We help children understand their rights and freedoms while also recognising the responsibilities that accompany them.

Our work in *Protective Behaviours* further supports this by teaching all pupils the core expectations: **Be Safe, Be Ready, Be Respectful**. This helps them develop confidence, self-regulation and awareness of personal boundaries while respecting the rights of others.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is a cornerstone of our school ethos. Through the 7 Habits, pupils learn the importance of respect, empathy and positive relationships, with particular emphasis on “seek first to understand, then to be understood.”

When disagreements arise, staff facilitate mediation so pupils can express their feelings, listen to one another and rebuild relationships constructively. Respect is continually promoted through lessons, assemblies, restorative approaches and our expectations for behaviour during playtimes and around school.

Understanding of Different Faiths and Beliefs

We actively develop pupils’ understanding of diversity and their place in a culturally varied society. This is achieved through:

- Religion and Worldviews (RW) lessons
- PSHE and assemblies
- Discussions about prejudice, stereotyping and discrimination
- Celebrations of religious and cultural events
- Inviting visitors from a range of faiths and worldviews to share their experiences

Assemblies are planned to ensure pupils regularly encounter and learn about a range of cultures, values and beliefs. These opportunities build respect, challenge misconceptions and promote inclusivity.

Review

This document will be reviewed annually and the updated version will be published on our school website.

The next scheduled review is **December 2026**.

Distribution

A copy of this document will be issued to:

- a) All governors
- b) All members of school staff
- c) All parents

Digitally signed and stored on Governor Hub.