



# Croftlands Junior School Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural curriculum

## Statement of intent

At Croftlands Junior School, the pupils and their learning are at the very heart of every decision we make. This policy reflects our diverse mix of pupils and does not discriminate against any protected characteristics.

This document sets out the framework in which Croftlands Junior School will ensure that it actively promotes the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

The school prides itself on providing a consistently safe, caring and happy environment where each pupil is valued as an individual and can develop towards their full potential. This policy reflects the ways in which the school helps pupils to develop their individuality and inner discipline. The spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) education of our pupils is implemented throughout the school's activities and is not limited to specific SMSC lessons.

These values are officially taught through the Religious Education (RE) and Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum and are further nurtured through the school's ethos and promotion of spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) understanding.

Reviewed September 2022



## 1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- The Education Act 2002
- Equality Act 2010
- DfE (2014) 'Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools'
- DfE (2014) 'National curriculum in England framework for key stages 1 to 4'
- Ofsted (2022) 'School inspection handbook'
- Counter-Terrorism & Security Act 2015

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Online Safety Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

## 2. Roles and responsibilities

- 2.1. Croftlands Junior School understands the importance of promoting British values through a comprehensive and unprejudiced curriculum.
- 2.2. The Governing Body is responsible for the overall implementation of this policy, ensuring that British values are upheld throughout the school.
- 2.3. The Headteacher will ensure that all teachers and staff are aware of the requirement to uphold British values throughout the curriculum, and will ensure that the appropriate procedures are in place to deliver this.
- 2.4. Teachers and support staff are responsible for modelling behaviour that respects and adheres to the fundamental British values, ensuring that pupils feel as though their views count and supporting them to develop positive self-esteem.
- 2.5. Teachers will ensure that their lessons are inclusive of, and sensitive to, the fundamental British values, ensuring that lessons discuss, pull examples from and are respectful of a diverse array of cultures.
- 2.6. Pupils are expected to treat each other and staff with respect, in line with the school's Behaviour Policy.

## 3. Aims and objectives

Through our policy and procedures, we aim to ensure that our pupils have:

- An understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process.
- An appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their wellbeing and safety.
- 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.
- An understanding that the freedom to hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law.
- An acceptance that 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.
- An understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination.

## 4. Democracy

- 4.1. Pupils will be taught, in an age-appropriate way, the advantages and disadvantages of democracy, as well as how democracy works in the UK.
- 4.2. Staff will ensure that pupils feel as though their views and opinions matter, and will be given opportunities to talk about their feelings, e.g. through pastoral support, and the RSHE and PSHE curriculums.
- 4.3. At Croftlands Junior School pupils have numerous opportunities to have their views heard through the pupil-elected school council and through occasional pupil questionnaires.
- 4.4. Our pupils are encouraged to have an input into what and how they learn to instil an understanding of democracy for their future.

## 5. The rule of law

- 5.1. The school has a high regard for the laws that govern and protect the school, the responsibilities that this involves, and the consequences when laws are broken. Pupils will be taught these values and the reasons behind laws that are essential for their wellbeing and safety.
- 5.2. At Croftlands Junior School pupils are taught these values and the reasons behind laws, whether they govern the class, the school or the country, that are essential for their well-being and safety. Pupils are allowed healthy debate in class on the matter to encourage recognition of the importance of the law.
- 5.3. Pupils will also be taught to understand the importance of their own behaviour, the impact that their behaviour has on others, and the consequences of their behaviour, through the implementation and enforcement of the school Behaviour Policy.

5.4. All pupils will be involved in the creation of school rules to inspire them with this understanding. Pupils will be allowed healthy debate in class on the matter to encourage recognition of the importance of the law.

## 6. Individual liberty

6.1. At Croftlands Junior School we foster a safe and supportive environment where pupils are actively encouraged to make choices. Whether it is choosing a challenging task or an extra-curricular club, pupils have the freedom to base their choices on their interests.

6.2. Pupils are taught about their rights and personal freedoms and are encouraged and advised on how to exercise these safely, for instance through our teaching on e-safety and PSHE lessons.

## 7. Mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

7.1. The school will ensure that respect for all individuals, regardless of their protected characteristics and/or backgrounds, is promoted throughout the school. Pupils will be taught about the importance of diversity in British society, and will learn about different cultures, beliefs and backgrounds throughout the curriculum and extra-curricular activities.

7.2. Respect forms a core pillar of Croftlands Junior School's ethos. Pupils are treated with respect and learn to treat each other and staff with respect.

7.3. This is reinforced through our Behaviour Policy and posters throughout the school promoting mutual respect.

7.4. Croftlands Junior School acknowledges that tolerance is achieved through pupils' knowledge and understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and the opportunity for pupils to experience such diversity.

7.5. Throughout the year, assemblies are held focusing on bullying, with reference to prejudice based bullying, and discussion is encouraged.

7.6. Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs is supported by the RE and PSHE curriculum.

7.7. We encourage our pupils from different faiths or religions to share their knowledge with their peers to enhance their learning.

## 8. Challenging views that go against British values

The school openly challenges opinions and behaviour, demonstrated by both staff and pupils, that goes against British values.

The school does not tolerate discriminatory and prejudicial behaviour, and any pupils displaying this behaviour will be disciplined in line with the Behaviour Policy.

## 9. Staff training

9.1. At Croftlands Junior School staff are made aware of their responsibilities in terms of British values during their thorough human resources induction.

9.2. Staff will be offered the opportunity for further training on upholding British Values through INSET and staff meetings.

## 10. Review

10.1. This curriculum is kept under regular review by the Headteacher and school staff and amended as appropriate to reflect any changes to regulations.