



OFG
Education

FUNDAMENTAL BRITISH VALUES POLICY



Benton House
SCHOOL



Fundamental Brtsh Values Policy

At Benton House School, we are committed to providing a safe, nurturing, and aspirational environment where every pupil is supported to achieve their full potential. We place safeguarding, wellbeing, and inclusion at the heart of all we do, ensuring pupils feel secure, respected, and valued.

Our curriculum and provision are designed to be broad, balanced, and stimulating, enabling pupils to make progress academically while also developing socially, emotionally, and personally. We foster resilience, independence, and a love of learning, preparing pupils for the next stage of their education and life beyond school.

Our ethos is underpinned by the values of Curiosity, Ambition, Respect, and Empathy. Through positive relationships, high expectations, and nurturing principles, we ensure that every pupil has the opportunity to succeed, contribute, and thrive in a caring and inclusive community.

All Benton House School policies are grounded in this vision, ensuring consistency, compliance, and a shared commitment to safeguarding, high-quality education, and the holistic development of every pupil.

At Benton House School, we develop and promote British Values throughout our school and within our curriculum. British Values are embedded throughout the curriculum, personal development programme, enrichment activities, behaviour curriculum, safeguarding education and wider school culture. They support pupils to become active, respectful and responsible citizens who are prepared for life in modern Britain.

At Benton House School, British Values are closely linked to our CARE values of Curiosity, Ambition, Respect and Empathy and are promoted through positive relationships, pupil voice, community engagement, equality, diversity and inclusion.

“We want every school to promote the basic British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs.” *Lord Nash*

A key part of our plan for education is to ensure pupil become valuable and fully rounded members of society who treat others with respect and leave school fully prepared for life in modern Britain.

British Values

- The Rule of Law
- Democracy
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs

To do this our pupil will develop.

- An understanding of equality, diversity and protected characteristics.
- Respect for people with different backgrounds, beliefs, identities and life experiences.
- An awareness of their rights, responsibilities and role within society.
- The confidence to challenge discrimination, prejudice and intolerance.
- An understanding of how to participate positively within their community.

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- The knowledge and skills needed to stay safe online and in the wider community.

The vision statement and aims of the school clearly reflect these values, and the whole school strives to uphold them.

Vision Statement

Our school is committed to providing a safe, secure and stimulating environment. We value and promote shared personal achievement, high standards and respect for the individual. We believe that by working together we build understanding of one another and develop the self-esteem of every individual.

This vision statement represents the principles that we strive towards at Benton House School. Throughout our school we hope to show how we translate these aims into practice.

Our School Aims

Our aims stand upon three fundamental principles.

- To provide every child with the life skills to become successful learners who reach their full potential.
- To provide a safe, supportive, stimulating and inclusive environment where every child is recognised, cared for, encouraged and valued.
- We will actively ensure the involvement of the whole community, particularly families, who have a vital role in supporting their pupil's education. This partnership will encourage healthy and positive attitudes motivating pupil to become life-long learners.

As a school, we value and celebrate the diverse heritages of everybody at Benton House School. Alongside this, we value and celebrate being part of Britain. In general terms, this means that we celebrate traditions and customs during the year.

Examples include:

- Community visits and educational visits.
- Forest School and Beach School experiences.
- Charity events and fundraising activities.
- National awareness events including Anti-Bullying Week, Pupil's Mental Health Week, Safer Internet Day and Remembrance activities.
- Cultural celebrations and diversity events.
- Opportunities to engage with local services, employers and community organisations.

Further to this, pupil learn about being part of Britain from different perspectives. Two specific examples of when we teach about being part of Britain are:

Geographically: Our rivers, coasts and seaside holiday topics ensure that pupil have a better understanding of what Britain is, learning more about:

- its coasts, rivers and mountains
- where Britain is in relation to the rest of Europe and other countries in the world

Historically: Key moments in British history are studied in the topics such as 'London's Burning' and significant historical figures.

The table below is an indication of where we can find evidence to show that British Values are an intrinsic part of school life at Benton House School.

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British values are also taught explicitly once per half term as part of the PSHE curriculum.

- Democracy (Aut 2)
- The rule of law (Spr 1)
- Individual liberty (Spr 2)
- Mutual respect (Sum 1)
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs (Sum 2)

Pupil, parents and staff have many opportunities for their voices to be heard at Benton House School. Democracy is central to how we operate.

An obvious example is our School Council. The election of the School Council members reflects our British electoral system and demonstrates democracy in action: candidates make speeches, pupils consider characteristics important for an elected representative, pupils vote in secret using ballot boxes etc. Made up of one representative from each class, the School Council meets regularly to discuss issues raised by the different classes. The council has its own budget and is able to effect change within the school.

Democracy

Another example of 'pupil voice' is:

- Pupil are asked to respond and reflect on the teaching and learning they receive as well as make suggestions for the School Council to consider.

Pupils are encouraged to contribute to school improvement through:

- School Council.
- Pupil voice activities.
- Behaviour and curriculum feedback.
- Annual review contributions.
- Surveys and consultation opportunities.

Pupils are supported to understand how their views can influence decision-making both within school and wider society.

Pupils are always listened to by adults and are taught to listen carefully and with concern to each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard. We encourage pupils to take ownership of not only their school but also of their own learning and progress. This encourages a heightened sense of both personal and social responsibility and is demonstrated daily by our pupils.

Parents' opinions are welcomed at Benton House School through methods such as questionnaires, surveys at parents' evenings and opportunities to comment on whole school matters e.g. after school provision.

The importance of rules and laws, whether they be those that govern our school or our country, are referred to and reinforced often, such as in assemblies and when reflecting on behaviour choices. At the start of the school year, each class discusses the school rules and class routines, principles that are clearly understood by all and seen to be necessary to ensure that every class member can learn in a safe and ordered environment. These rules are displayed in each class along with the Code of Conduct of the school.

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The Rule of Law.

Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves, and the consequences when laws are broken. These values are reinforced in different ways:

- Visits from authorities such as the police and fire service
- Cycling Proficiency lessons enable pupil to understand the rules of the road and the potential dangers encountered should they break those rules.
- During Religious Education, when rules for faiths are thought about
- The importance of fairness, justice and accountability.
- How laws help keep people safe.
- The relationship between rights and responsibilities.
- How school rules, community expectations and national laws contribute to a safe society.
- How to seek support when they feel unsafe or concerned.
- During other school subjects, where there is respect and appreciation for different rules

Alongside rules and laws, we promote freedom of choice and the right to respectfully express views and beliefs. Through the provision of a safe, supportive environment, we provide boundaries for our pupils to make choices safely, for example:

- Choices about how they can improve their learning
- Choices around the participation in extra-curricular activities

Individual Liberty

Our pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are taught how to exercise these safely. By teaching the pupil how to manage and understand emotions they will be motivated and equipped to:

- Be effective and successful learners
- Make and sustain friendships
- Deal with and resolve conflict evenly and fairly
- Solve problems with others by themselves
- Manage strong feelings such as frustration, anger or anxiety
- Be able to promote calm and optimistic states that promote the achievement of goals
- Recover from setbacks and persist in the face of difficulties
- Work and play cooperatively
- Compete fairly and win or lose with dignity and respect for all competitors
- Recognise and stand up for their rights and the rights of others
- Understand the value the differences and commonalities between people, respecting the rights of others to have beliefs and values different to their own.
- To respect and value our world, and the things, both material and alive that exist within it.
- Develop self-advocacy and independence.
- Make informed and safe choices.
- Understand consent and personal boundaries.
- Manage online interactions safely.
- Recognise unhealthy influences and exploitation.
- Build resilience and confidence in expressing their views respectfully.

Mutual Respect

We have high expectations of achievement and behaviour. Pupil and staff are polite and kind. We believe everyone has their own special gifts and we are expected to use them.

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We listen and respect each other. We teach the pupil that conflict will be dealt with calmly and fairly. All members of the school family are valued equally. We celebrate lunch time behaviour and taking care of our school environment and celebrate each other's achievements whether that be in or out of school through our weekly Celebration Assemblies.

Teachers plan exciting, interesting, challenging and innovative lessons where everybody is expected to do their best and respect others.

Mutual respect is promoted through:

- Restorative approaches.
- Trauma-informed practice.
- Positive behaviour support.
- Inclusive classroom environments.
- Celebration of diversity and individual strengths.
- Opportunities for collaborative learning and teamwork.

Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

At Benton House School, we are committed to preparing pupils to live, learn and work successfully within modern British society. We actively promote equality, diversity, inclusion and respect for all individuals, regardless of their background, beliefs, identity or life experiences.

Pupils are taught that everyone has the right to hold different views, beliefs and opinions and that these differences should be respected and valued. Through our curriculum, assemblies, enrichment opportunities and wider school experiences, pupils develop an understanding of the diverse communities that make up Britain and the wider world.

Pupils learn about:

- Different faiths, cultures and worldviews.
- Equality, diversity and protected characteristics.
- The importance of inclusion, belonging and respect.
- Challenging stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination.
- Respectful disagreement and debate.
- The value of living and working alongside people from different backgrounds and experiences.

Specific examples of how Benton House School promotes understanding and respect include:

- Religious Education, PSHE and Personal Development lessons.
- Literature, art, music and wider curriculum opportunities that explore different cultures and perspectives.
- Assemblies, themed events and awareness days that celebrate diversity and promote inclusion.
- Opportunities for pupils to share their own experiences, beliefs and traditions.
- Discussions that encourage empathy, understanding and appreciation of different viewpoints.

We actively challenge discriminatory language, behaviour and attitudes and promote a culture where all members of the school community feel safe, respected and valued. Through this approach, pupils develop the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to become respectful, responsible and inclusive members of society.

Monitoring and Evaluation

At Benton House School, leaders evaluate the impact of British Values education through:

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- Pupil voice.
- Learning walks.
- Curriculum monitoring.
- Behaviour and attendance information.
- Safeguarding information.
- Personal development evidence.
- School Council feedback.
- Parent and carer feedback.

This information is used to ensure British Values remain embedded throughout school life and contribute positively to pupils' personal development, wellbeing and preparation for adulthood.

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