

# British Values Statement — Victoria

Victoria Community School is committed to serving its community and surrounding areas. We recognise the multi-faith nature of the United Kingdom and understand the crucial role our school plays in promoting these values. We encourage admissions from all those entitled to education under British law regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status.

We are a school where  
**'Everyone is important'**

This statement outlines the key British values we actively promote.

## Democracy

Democracy is valued within our school. We have a School Council and House Captains who are voted for each year by all pupils. The School Council and House Teams work with the school staff to influence all aspects of learning and school life. In these meetings students are able to discuss issues which affect their life within school. The election of the School Council and House Captains reflects our British electoral system and demonstrates democracy in action; candidates create manifestos, pupils consider characteristics important for an electoral representative and pupils vote. Pupils are encouraged to express their opinions.

## Individual Liberty

Victoria provides a safe and supportive environment in which students are actively encouraged to make choices. We educate and provide boundaries for our children to make choices safely, through empowering education. Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise these safely eg Health Fitness and Safety Week. Children are encouraged to participate in extra-curricular clubs and opportunities. We encourage the development of self-confidence and self-esteem in pupils. We promote positive attitudes and help pupils understand we have responsibilities as well as rights.

## Mutual Respect

Our ethos is about accepting, respecting and valuing each other. We encourage discussions in all areas but particularly in lessons such as RE, English, Geography and History. We actively support all to develop their own reasoned views about moral and ethical issues, promoting fundamental British values at all times. We encourage all pupils to understand that they have rights and responsibilities as members of Victoria and the wider community. Discussions and charity events focus on ways we can help and support those who are less fortunate than ourselves.

## The Rule of Law

Victoria has a strong and positive behaviour policy. Through this we consistently promote our high expectations of all members of the community. Our Mission Statement emphasises respect for all, which everyone is expected to follow. Key Stage celebrations and establishing Class and School Codes are examples of the events used as a positive reinforcement of good behaviour for all and positive contributions to our community. Those who disrupt learning are given sanctions. Our system shows a clear link between right and wrong behaviour and therefore links to the civil and criminal law of England.

## Tolerance of those different

At Victoria we aim to promote the understanding and appreciation of different faiths and cultures both within our school and the wider world. We actively promote courtesy and good manners towards all. In our RE curriculum we study key beliefs and traditions of the main religions including Hinduism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. We actively monitor and tackle all forms of bullying and harassment (This includes cyber bullying, prejudice-based bullying related to appearance, SEN, sex, race, religion and belief, disability, sexual orientation or gender reassignment) in line with the 2010 Equality Act.

**At Victoria we will actively challenge opinions contrary to Fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views.**