

**Learning Together for Life**

*Jesus said, 'Love one another as I have loved you' John 15:12, New Testament*

# **Stepney Greencoat**

## **Church of England**

### **Primary School**



## **British Values Statement**

<b>Policy Reviewed/Approved</b>	By Committee, Individual Governor or Head teacher
<b>Policy Renewal Date</b>	SPRING 2025

**Learning:** At Stepney Greencoat we directly teach our pupils about British values at the beginning of each school year in our whole school collective worship sessions. Over five Fridays in the Autumn Term a member of the Senior Leadership team focuses on one of the five key British values and teaches the school community about what it means, what it looks like in our everyday lives and why this value is important. At each of the following Friday sessions, the previous value is revisited briefly before teaching the children about the next one, thus reinforcing previous learning and building on their knowledge.

**Together:** By teaching British Values in collected worship, our whole school (staff and pupils) are in attendance and everyone comes together to learn and understand the importance of these values to our country, to our local community and to our school. We share how we can live out these values together in our school. By hearing these messages about the importance of British Values and how they are meaningful for us, all staff can support pupils to reinforce this learning through subsequent days and weeks in all areas of our school in the classroom, in clubs, in the playground or in the dining hall.

**For Life:** Teaching our children about British Values shows them what it means to be upstanding, respectful and compassionate members of society who value respect, fairness and equality and tolerance. They learn this in our school, but take it with them into their communities and throughout their lives in all they do.

# British Values

The Department for Education state that there is a need “to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools 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.” At Stepney Greencoat these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

## Democracy

Democracy is embedded at the school. 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. Pupils also have the opportunity to air their opinions and ideas through our School Council and also through Pupil Voice questionnaires. The elections of our School Councillors are based solely on pupil votes, reflecting our British electoral system and demonstrating democracy in action.

## The Rule of Law

The importance of laws whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout our school day, through collective worship and also when dealing with behaviour in school. We encourage our pupils to distinguish right from wrong and help pupils to understand that living under the rule of law protects individuals. Our 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. Visits from the Police, Fire Service etc. also help to reinforce our messages.

## Individual Liberty

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for our pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and an empowering education. We support pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence. Our pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely; examples of this can be clearly seen in our e-safety and PSHE lessons. We implement a strong anti-bullying culture.

## Mutual Respect

At the heart of our whole school vision is a commitment to our school values – a set of core attitudes that we believe contribute to individuals being able to live happy and successful lives within the communities to which they belong. Each half term’s value underpins the need for mutual respect between our pupils and their peers, staff, their families and their wider community. Our Values are taught through collective

worship and PSHE sessions and form a key part of our daily dialogue across school. Respect is promoted across school and it is deeply embedded in all that we do at the school. The pupils know and understand that it is expected and imperative that respect is shown to everyone, whatever differences we may have and to everything, however big or small. The core value of Respect at Stepney Greencoat underpins our work every day both in and out of the classroom. A very wide range of extra-curricular clubs are offered at Stepney Greencoat after the school day. These clubs provide another opportunity for mutual respect to be secured in the attitudes of our pupils, both amongst those participating from their own setting, and any visiting staff or teams.

## **Tolerance of Those with Different Faiths and Beliefs**

Our core value of Respect ensures tolerance of those who have different faiths and beliefs. Stepney Greencoat enhances pupils understanding of different faiths and beliefs through religious education lessons, whole school TE days; PSHE work; welcoming visitors from other schools that are not predominately white British, and enjoying a depth of study about other cultures and belief systems during themed weeks. All year groups take part in a faith visit to a place of worship.