Villa Real School

together we achieve

British Values Statement 2022

Responsibility: Louise Burns Date: February 2022

Signed and Adopted by the Governing Body:

Chair of Governors

Date: 07.02.22

To be reviewed: February 2023

British Values Statement.

RRSA Article Links.

Article 7. Registration, name, nationality, care.

Every child has a right to a legal name and nationality, as well the right to know, and as far as possible to be cared for by their parents/carers.

Article 8. Preservation of Identity.

Governments must respect and protect every child's right to an identity, and prevent their name, nationality or family relationships from being changed unlawfully. If a child has been denied part of their identity illegally, governments must act quickly to protect and assist the child to re-establish their identity.

Article 14. Freedom of thought, belief and religion.

Every child has the right to think and believe what they want and also practise their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights. Governments must respect the rights of parents/carers to give their children the information about this right.

Article 29. Goals of Education.

Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents/carers, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

Article 41. Respect for better National Standards.

If the laws of a particular country protect children better than the articles of the Convention, then those laws must stay in place.

British Values Statement

Our Government believes that, 'British society is founded on fundamental values and principles, which all those living in the UK should respect and support. These values are reflected in the responsibilities, rights and privileges of being a British citizen or permanent resident of the UK. They are based on history and traditions and are protected by law, customs and expectations. There is no place in British society for extremism or intolerance.'

The values we support are not unique to Britain and are shared by many people in the world represented by the diverse families at Villa Real. We support the values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs and these are embedded within our curriculum. These values are found in our own school values identified by our local authority as respect, confidence, ambition, creativity, determination and enthusiasm.

"British Values" are embedded in the school curriculum contributing to our spiritual, moral, social and cultural education. This supports the development of the "whole child" and helps to ensure our pupils/students leave Villa Real School prepared for modern times and modern life in Britain.
We at Villa Real School recognise that such development is most successful when those values and attitudes are positively promoted by all staff and provide a model of behaviour for our pupils/students.
The curriculum at Villa Real School offers broad and balanced opportunities. British Values have been identified as:

Democracy

The ability to understand and communicate are the most important areas of learning. We ensure pupils/students are given a 'voice' to communicate. This 'voice' may be different for every child. For some children it is using spoken word and or written word. Other children use symbols, sign language, pictures, body language, physical responses, eye pointing, ICT, and augmentative communication tools.
We empower our pupils/students by giving them opportunities to make choices about things which are important to them or they believe to be important. By valuing each 'voice' and by listening and responding to that voice we demonstrate that we support democracy and liberty.
At Villa Real School we have a Student Council where pupils/students meet termly and make decisions with regard to school life. We also take part in the annual parliament week.

Rule of Law

We involve pupils/students in setting rules and staff support pupils/students to make decisions and choices that are acceptable to the school community and society at large. Pupils/students are supported and helped to learn how to manage their behaviour and take responsibility for their actions. Staff are committed to providing a stable, consistent, structured and predictable environment within school. We enable to endeavour to support pupils/students in developing an understanding of the consequences of their behaviour and actions; and how this can affect others. This enables pupils/students to feel safe and secure whilst promoting optimum conditions for learning to take place.

Individual Liberty.

Pupils/students are encouraged to become good and valued citizens. At Villa Real we do this by supporting each pupil/student to become as independent as possible. Some pupils/students will be able to take responsibility for particular roles within school and develop a firm understanding that with certain rights comes a level of responsibility. Learning how to be independent is a fundamental part of learning to understand yourself. We support others by participating in charitable events such as Water Aid, Children in Need, Christmas Jumper Day and Red Nose Day.

Mutual Respect.

We promote each pupil's inclusion in activities, settings and locations that are appropriate to them and meet their needs. Within school, pupils/students work with a range of people and positive interactions with others are always positively promoted on a personalised basis for each child. This may include working with pupils/students from different classes within school, partaking in events with pupils/students from other schools and outside professionals. The curriculum is personalised and planned for pupils/students and may include transitioning within the range of resources and places on site and also going out into the community to meet a wide range of people in various settings. We achieved the Equalities Award in 2020, Stonewall Award in 2021, which shows our commitment to respecting everyone.

We at Villa Real believe that it is essential to facilitate opportunities in our pupils/students becoming part of a wider community as our pupils/students, their families and school staff have much to offer in developing community cohesion. Teaching pupils/students the skills they need in order to do this forms part of our curriculum through PHSCE, PE, RRSA, Enterprise and various enrichment activities. As Article 29 of the RRSA states:

> Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents/carers, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs

We are part of a school and local community where each individual is respected and valued equally without regard to ability, gender, heritage, sex, faith or race.

Cultural appreciations and development forms part of our curriculum. We place great emphasis on providing encounters and participation in events and celebrations to broaden all pupils'/students' experiences and awareness of others. Our assemblies and SMSC education enables all pupils/students to find out more about themselves and others linking their lives to the communities in which they belong. Some of the themes cover; friendships, helping others and celebrations from a wide range of faiths and beliefs and world events.

Pupils/students are actively encouraged to experience British Culture through the curriculum. For example, learning through Geography and History lessons based on the UK, RRSA, Citizenship, RE and PSCHE lessons.

Some pupils/students at Villa Real School find it difficult to express and to articulate their feelings and concerns; staff are very attuned to changes in pupil/student demeanour, body language, communicative ques which may sometimes indicate anxiety. If staff are ever concerned about a pupil/student our accepted practise links directly to the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy which entrusts a duty of care to all staff and actively protects and promotes the welfare of children.

The staff at Villa Real School work closely with parents and carers along with other professionals, ensuring that all pupils/students are happy, well cared for, feel safe and feel valued. This enables our children to learn the skills they need fulfilling life as part of their community.

The following are not acceptable at Villa Real School:

- the promotion of intolerance of other faiths, cultures and races;
- failure to challenge gender stereotypes, homophobic comments and others negative behaviours;
- isolating young people and others from their wider community;
- treating others in a way that you would not accept yourself;
- failure to challenge behaviours (including staff, young people, parents/carers and other stakeholders) that are not in line with the fundamental British Values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs.