



PACKWOOD HAUGH SCHOOL
(Including EYFS)
British Values and the Prevention of Radicalisation
BRITISH VALUES

Authorised by the Governing Body: Yes	Date: 9/10/2023
Produced by: Sue Rigby 01/09/2023	
Date Disseminated to the Staff via the intranet: 01/09/2023	
Date of Review: 09/10/2024	
Signed: <i>James Pitt</i> , Chair of Governors	

The Department of Education have recently reinforced the 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.”*

The Government set out its definition of British values in the 2015 Prevent Strategy, and these values have been reiterated by the Prime Minister this year. At Packwood these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy

At Packwood democracy is taken very seriously. Children are actively encouraged to have a voice and share their views and opinions regularly. Our active **school council** is one such example. The School Council is chaired by the Head of Juniors and the Head of Seniors. Each form, from the main school, elects a representative in a secret ballot. New representatives are elected twice a year. At the meetings the representatives present ideas and opinions gathered from their classmates, and listen to and comment on those presented by the other representatives. Propositions are discussed and conclusions reached at the meetings. Proposals which have been agreed will be passed to the Headmaster. Minutes of the meeting are circulated.

Boarders' Speak is a council made up of the Year 8 boarding captains. The meetings are chaired by the House Parents and take place once a term. At the meetings, the captains present ideas and comment on the boarding experience. The ideas are recorded and passed to the Headmaster.

House meetings take place termly and are an opportunity for children to raise concerns or offer suggestions for ways of improving school life.

The Headmaster has weekly meetings with the monitors who can put forward suggestions to improve school life. These meetings are minuted and fed back to the staff.

Regular debates take place either as a whole school activity or as part of English lessons. A wide range of motions are debated.

At the end of each term the children complete a self-report form which provides them with the opportunity to share their views of their learning at Packwood and suggest ways in which the school could be improved further.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout the school day, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. Children 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. Our schools rules, rewards and sanctions which are displayed in all classrooms, referred to regularly and consistently upheld are a practical example of this.

Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service help reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty

Within school, children are actively encouraged to make decisions and choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for young children to take risks and make choices safely. Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and

personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it be through choice of learning challenge, how they record their learning, participation in one of our extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, children are given the freedom to make choices and make decisions.

Mutual Respect

At Packwood mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect.

Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Packwood is situated in an area which is not culturally diverse, therefore we place a great emphasis on promoting diversity with the children. This is addressed through our RE and PSHE teaching. The children visit different places of worship and learn about the beliefs and practices of people of the following world faiths: Judaism; Islam and Hinduism. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. The school supports a charity in Cambodia and there are termly assemblies about the children and adults that are supported by the work of ISF.

At Packwood we will actively challenge children, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including those expressing 'extremist' views.

PREVENTING RADICALISATION AND EXTREMISM

Radicalisation is defined as the act or process of making a person more radical or favouring of extreme or fundamental changes in political, economic or social conditions, institutions or habits of the mind.

Extremism is defined as the holding of extreme political or religious views.

The Governing Body of Packwood has a **zero tolerance** approach to extremist behaviour for all school community members. We rely on our strong values to steer our work and ensure the pastoral care of our children protects them from exposure to negative influences.

Packwood is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its children. As a school we recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation is no different from safeguarding against any other vulnerability. At Packwood all staff are expected to uphold and promote the fundamental principles of British values, including **democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.**

- Children are encouraged to follow the Packwood Way or The Acorns Way. These complement the key “British Values” of tolerance, respect, understanding, compassion and harmonious living.
- Children are helped to understand the importance of democracy and freedom of speech, through the assembly programme, PSHE lessons, the school curriculum, Boarding Captains and through the elected School Council members
- Children are taught how to keep themselves safe, in school and when using the internet.
- Children participate in local community events so that they appreciate and value their neighbours and friends who may not share their faith background.
- Children’s wellbeing, confidence and resilience is promoted through our planned curriculum and extra curricular learning opportunities.
- Children are supported in making good choices from a very young age, so they understand the impact and consequences of their actions on others.

THE ROLE OF THE CURRICULUM

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. Children are encouraged to express themselves through discussions, debates and consultations. The RE (Religious Education), PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) and SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) provision is embedded across the curriculum, and underpins the ethos of our school. Children learn about all major faiths and visit places of worship wherever possible. They are also taught about how to stay safe when using the internet.

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at Packwood to date, it is important for us to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues which affect the region in which we teach. Staff are reminded to suspend any professional disbelief that instances of radicalisation ‘could not happen here’ and to refer any concerns through the Designated Safeguarding Lead.