P10 Promotion of British Values Policy

1. Introduction

This policy applies to all students and staff of The Purcell School.

The Department for Education has stipulated that schools in England must actively promote British values through the curriculum and in co-curricular activities. We recognise our obligation under section 78 of the Education Act (2002) to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of students at the school. Also, the school actively promotes fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. At The Purcell School these values are WIDELY reinforced and permeate the school community.

The examples that follow are an indication of some of the many ways we seek to embed British values at The Purcell School and should be seen as an indication of our approach rather than an exhaustive list. The underlying principles behind the promotion of these values are a reflection of the Christian ethos, which the school seeks to promote.

2. Mission Statement

We believe that The Purcell School enables students to confidently meet the challenges of the wider world. Here, students of different traditions are educated in an environment where academic and musical excellence is achieved. This is brought about in surroundings where relationships are based on trust and respect.

3. Democracy

At The Purcell School, the principle of democracy is consistently reinforced, with the democratic process being employed for important decisions within the school community and beyond, for instance the nomination and election of students to the different School Councils, the student leadership team and the positions of Head of Houses, and of Day Students. The principle of democracy is explored in assemblies, History, in PSHEE, and across the broader curriculum and co-curriculum (especially where student voice is exercised and where cultural themes are introduced).

4. The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern classes, the houses, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days and through school assemblies. As a part of our induction process all parents and students when they join the school are made aware of our behaviour, code of conduct, anti-bullying and acceptable use policies. Students are taught the value and reasons behind rules, their own responsibilities around the rules and the consequences of their actions when these rules are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service help reinforce this message. The rule of law is explored further through the PSHEE programme.

5. Individual Liberty

At The Purcell School, students are actively encouraged to make independent choices, as appropriate, knowing that they are in a safe, secure and supportive environment. As a school, we educate and provide boundaries for students to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and an education which encourages intelligent questioning. Students are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised on how to exercise these safely, for example through e-Safety and PSHEE lessons. Whether it be choice through learning challenges or through participation in co-curricular clubs and opportunities, students are given the freedom to make choices.

6. Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is at the core of our school ethos and is modelled by students and staff alike. The school promotes respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning environments, in the boarding houses, and in co-curricular activities such as sport. Our outreach programme encourages an awareness of other communities and promotes student service initiatives such as charitable fund-raising.

Students at The Purcell School are always able to voice their opinions and we foster an environment where students are safe to disagree with each other. The school develops mutual respect throughout the curriculum and our code of conduct promotes the values of respect and responsibility. The Student Council also provides the students with an arena where they can raise issues of concern.

Throughout the curriculum and co-curriculum, our teaching precludes the promotion of partisan political views. Where political issues are brought to the attention of students during school, in activities provided or organised by or on behalf of the school, every effort is made to ensure that students are offered a balanced presentation of opposing views.

7. Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

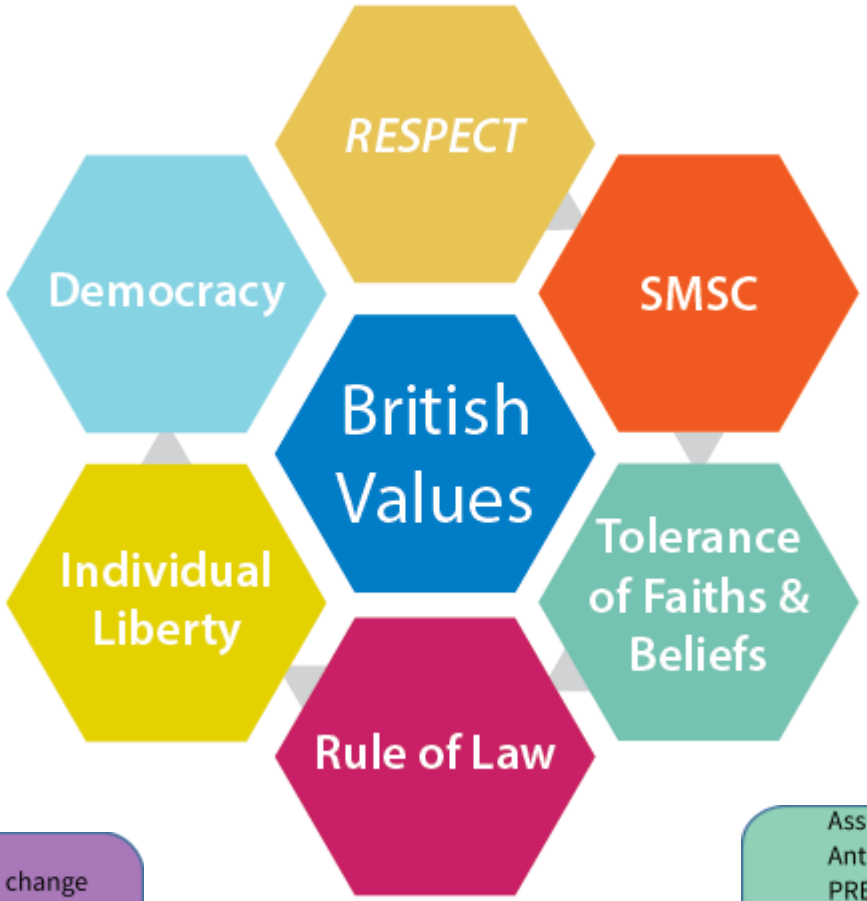
This is achieved through equipping students with the ability to understand their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to celebrate such diversity within the school community. Assemblies and discussions supported by learning in History and PSHEE allow the students to appreciate many different faiths and practices. Students have the opportunity to join school trips abroad from which they gain valuable experience of other religions, cultures and languages. This is extended to the school catering, where special food, 'themed' days, are organised to celebrate both British and World events. Diversity within the school community, both among the student and staff populations, is not simply tolerated but actively celebrated.

Policy author / reviewer:	***Policy date / review date:***	***Next review due:***
SLT	November 2022	November 2023
SLT	November 2023	November 2024
SLT	September 2024	September 2025
SLT	September 2025	September 2026
SLT	September 2026	September 2027

Resilience, Equality, Success, Perseverance, Enterprise, Creativity, Teamwork

Elections
Student Voice
Community Award nominations
Debating
Student Council
Prefect System

Curriculum & tutorial program
Enrichment
Assemblies
Charity fundraising



Students affect change
Anti-Bullying
Co-curricular program
Personalised learning
PSHEE

Assemblies
Anti-bullying
PREVENT Training
Philosophy & Ethics
PSHEE
Trips

Code of Conduct, Rewards/Sanctions, Student Leadership Team and students reinforcing school ethos, visits from emergency service providers such as the police force