



ALMOND HILL JUNIOR SCHOOL
GOVERNING BODY

BRITISH VALUES POLICY

FULL GOVERNING BODY	December 2022
DATE FOR REVIEW	September 2025

ALMOND HILL JUNIOR SCHOOL

SCHOOL VALUES

All schools have a duty 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 Almond Hill British Values enter into everything we do.

Democracy

Democracy is strong within the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Government, school council representatives from each class and pupil questionnaires. The election of class councillors is based on pupil votes. The election of Prime Minister in year 6 is modelled on the electoral system of a 'political party' putting forward a manifesto to be voted for. Regular pupil view assembly enables pupils to have a voice in policy review. Children have many opportunities to contribute to policy review and 'vote' for their preferences within curriculum activities. Representation at Stevenage School Parliament and visits by the local MP and town Mayor contribute to children understanding of local and national democracy.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws and rules, 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. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws and rules, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws or rules are broken. Rewards and sanctions are consistently applied through the school's Behaviour Policy.

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 pupils to make choices and take risks safely, through provision of a safe environment and by teaching a broad curriculum that revisits topics and themes according to age and maturity. Pupils 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.

Mutual Respect – values and manners

Our school ethos and behaviour policy is supported by teaching whole-school values. Each month there is a whole school focus on a particular value and pupils take part in regular discussions and assemblies related to what this value means and how it is shown. These values have been chosen by pupils and staff. There is high expectation for good manners to be exhibited in all aspect of school life. It is our policy to treat others as we would wish to be treated ourselves. We expect to greet each other with a smile, open doors for each other and ask after our well-being.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

This is achieved through talking with children to develop understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE. Members of different faiths or religions from our community and beyond are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. Opportunities to explore literature/books that explore prejudice are integrated into our curriculum. All subject leaders are developing their curriculum area with a view to ensure greater representation and cultural diversity which reflects the increasing diversity in our school community.

Alongside these fundamental 'values', pupils and staff at Almond Hill have decided to focus on a particular 'value' our school community feels it is important to promote. Although we aim to exemplify these values all of the time, we will focus on one of our chosen 'values' each month.

Our Chosen 'Values'

Month	Value	Definition	Example
September	Friendship	Having a close relationship or bond with another person.	Offering to play with everyone – not leaving others out. Helping others in your class. Realising that sometimes you might have an argument and fall out but making up.
October	Honesty	Telling the truth. Being fair and not cheating.	Owning up if you make a mistake Doing your own work. Not telling lies.
November	Respect	Treating someone or something in a way that shows you care. Valuing uniqueness.	Showing good manners, being polite. Showing interest in the talents, cultures and religions of others.
December	Generosity	Being happy to offer time and kindness to others in order to help them.	Being a good learning partner. Considering other people before doing what we want to do. Letting others go first.
January	Tolerance	Accepting things that may be different or unusual to us.	Enjoying working with different people and learning from them. Understanding that others have different views and opinions.
February	Courage	Showing bravery and not being scared.	Having a go and trying new things even if they seem hard.
March	Kindness	Being concerned and looking after someone – caring about what is happening to others.	Helping someone who is upset or in need of help. Welcoming someone new.
April	Positivity	Having a 'can do' attitude – being optimistic.	Thinking things will go well, smiling, being enthusiastic, having another go if it does not work first time.
May	Trust	Believing in something/someone that they will help you – feeling confident you will not be let down.	Sharing your worries or personal information. Not listening to or spreading gossip. Completing things you have been given responsibility for.
June	Inclusivity	A sense of community and accepting we are all different and welcoming those differences.	Enjoying working together with people from different backgrounds and with differing abilities; co-operating with them helping them and learning from them.
July	Reliability	Being trustworthy. Taking duties and responsibilities seriously and being sensible.	Being ready with everything you need on time. Offering to help. Completing a job properly.

In addition to these, we are having a whole year focus on the following:

2022- 2023 – Gratitude

2023 – 2024 – Empathy