



British Values

Our Values Statement

At HMFA schools we promote 'British Values' through our spiritual, moral, social and cultural education which permeates through the schools' curriculum and supports the development of the 'whole child'. We nurture our children so that they can grow into caring, democratic, responsible and tolerant adults who can make a positive contribution to British society and the world.

At HMFA, we recognise that such development is most successful when those values and attitudes are promoted by all the staff and provide a model of behaviour for our pupils.

'British Values' have been identified as:

Democracy:

The ability to communicate is the most important area of learning. In HMFA schools we ensure that pupils are given a 'voice' to communicate. We empower our pupils by giving them opportunities to make choices about the things that 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. Democracy is promoted through our Pupil Council, during assemblies and through the curriculum. We also provide pupils with the opportunity to express their views through pupil questionnaires.

Rule of Law:

We involve pupils in setting codes of behaviour; helping pupils to make decisions and choices that are acceptable to the school community and society at large. Students are taught the value and the reasons behind laws that govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service reinforce this message.

Pupils are helped to learn to manage their behaviour and take responsibility for their actions. Staff are committed to providing a consistent and predictable environment within the school and beyond. We can help some pupils to understand the connection between actions and consequences. This type of environment enables pupils to feel safe and secure; this in turn, promotes the optimum conditions for learning to take place.

Individual Liberty:

Pupils at HMFA schools are encouraged to become good and valued citizens. We do this by supporting each pupil to become as independent as possible and by giving them the freedom to make their own choices. We endeavour to demonstrate that everyone has rights; this includes the right to say 'No' when appropriate. Pupils are advised how to exercise their rights safely through PSHE lessons and e-safety lessons.

Some pupils will be able to take responsibility for particular roles and to understand that with certain rights comes a level of responsibility. Learning to do things independently is an important part of learning to understand yourself.

We support others by participating in local community events and charitable events such as Comic Relief and Children in Need. At HMFA Schools we believe that by engendering a caring and helpful environment and by learning to be independent can boost and nurture a healthy self-esteem.

Vulnerable pupils are protected and stereotypes are challenged. We have a strong anti-bullying culture at all HMFA schools and we do not tolerate any form of aggression which extends to pupils, staff and parents.

Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those with Different Faiths, Beliefs and Lifestyles

Respect is one of the core values of our school and pupils are encouraged to develop an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other cultures and ways of life.

It is important to facilitate opportunities for HMFA schools to be part of their unique communities as the pupils, families and staff have much to offer in the development of community cohesion. Throughout HMFA schools serve a multi-faith community where each person is respected and valued equally without regard to ability, gender, faith, heritage or race. As a federation of schools we also acknowledge that families lead different lifestyles and we encourage pupils to have an understanding of, and respect for, individual differences.

We promote each pupil's inclusion, where possible, in a range of activities, settings and locations. The children in Early Years have opportunities to integrate with other children. As pupils move into the other Key Stages, further planned events and circumstances are planned for pupils to go into the community to meet with a range of people in a variety of situations which include: sports events, community events and shared participation with other schools within and beyond the Federation. For example, working with the Birmingham Academy of Gospel Singing.

We offer a culturally rich and diverse curriculum in which major religions are studied and respected. Through RE and PSHE lessons we help all pupils to find out about themselves and others linking their lives to the communities in which they belong. Our assembly themes cover areas such as: friendships, helping others and celebrations from a range of faiths and world events. HMFA has a very successful link with schools in India and also Brazil. Staff from both countries have enjoyed taking lessons in our schools and receiving work from our pupils. Pupils also experience British Culture through our curriculum themes such as the Victorian era, World War Two and Explorers.