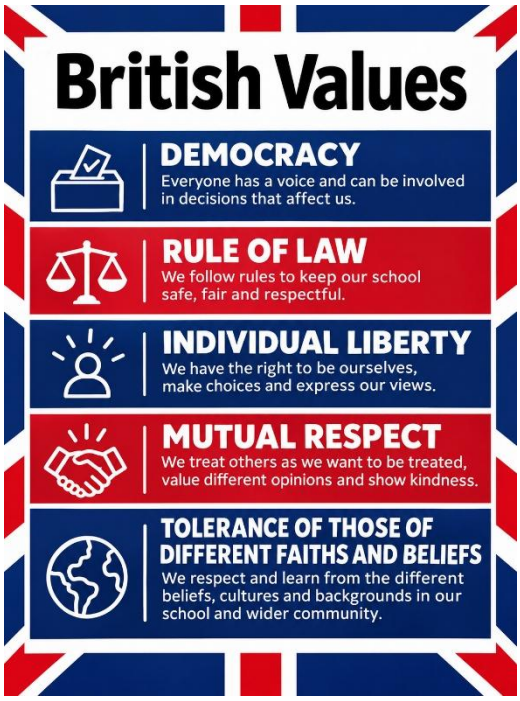
Stone Lodge School

British Values Statement



Promoting Fundamental British Values at Stone Lodge School

Our Values Statement

At Stone Lodge School, we are committed to actively promoting fundamental British values through our spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) education, personal development curriculum and wider school ethos. These values underpin our commitment to developing the whole child and preparing every pupil for a fulfilling, meaningful and inclusive life in modern Britain.

We recognise that personal development is most successful when positive values, attitudes and behaviours are consistently modelled and promoted by all members of our school community.
Our broad, balanced and personalised curriculum provides meaningful opportunities for pupils to develop their understanding of fundamental British values. Learning opportunities are adapted to meet individual needs, ensuring that pupils can access age-appropriate learning in ways that reflect their developmental stage, communication preferences and abilities.

Fundamental British values are embedded throughout our curriculum, with particular emphasis within Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education, citizenship, humanities and wider enrichment opportunities.

Every classroom has a British Values display, developed by our speech and language therapist, to support pupils' understanding and recognition of these important concepts through accessible communication.



The five fundamental British values are:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Pupil Voice and Smart School Councils

At Stone Lodge School, we believe that every pupil has a voice, regardless of their individual communication needs, and that their views, wishes and feelings should be recognised, respected and valued.

We have moved away from the traditional school council model and adopted the Smart School Councils approach to provide a more inclusive and accessible means of participation.

This pupil-led approach enables regular class meetings to take place across the school, empowering pupils to contribute to discussions, influence decisions and bring about meaningful change within their school community.

Pupils have been actively involved in discussions and decision-making relating to school rules, anti-bullying initiatives and International Women's Day.

Through these opportunities, pupils develop their confidence, communication skills, sense of responsibility and understanding of democratic participation.

Democracy

At Stone Lodge School, we recognise that communication is fundamental to enabling pupils to express their views, make informed choices and participate in decision-making.

We are committed to ensuring that every pupil has opportunities to communicate using methods appropriate to their individual needs.

We promote democracy by:

- Providing meaningful opportunities for pupils to express their opinions, preferences, wishes and feelings.
- Encouraging pupils to make choices and contribute to decisions that affect their school experience.
- Facilitating inclusive class discussions and pupil-led meetings through Smart School Councils.
- Supporting pupils to understand the importance of listening to and respecting the views of others.
- Developing an understanding of democratic processes through citizenship lessons and activities, including school-based elections linked to national elections.
- Encouraging pupils to recognise that their views matter and that they can positively influence their community.

By listening to and responding to pupil voice, we demonstrate our commitment to democracy, inclusion and individual empowerment.

The Rule of Law

We support pupils to develop an understanding of the importance of rules, laws and expectations in maintaining a safe, fair and respectful society.

Pupils are encouraged to contribute to the development of school and classroom expectations, helping them understand why rules are necessary and how their actions may affect themselves and others.

We promote the rule of law by:

- Supporting pupils to distinguish between right and wrong.
- Developing pupils' understanding of fairness, responsibility and the consequences of their actions.
- Helping pupils to develop emotional regulation and positive behaviour.
- Providing consistent, predictable and supportive learning environments.
- Using restorative approaches to help pupils understand the impact of their actions and repair relationships.
- Teaching pupils about the purpose of laws and their role in protecting individuals and communities.
- Developing pupils' understanding of the importance of respecting the laws of England.

Our consistent, supportive and personalised approach helps pupils feel safe and secure, creating positive conditions for learning and personal development.

Individual Liberty

At Stone Lodge School, we encourage pupils to become confident, valued and increasingly independent members of society.

We recognise that every pupil has individual rights, including the right to express their views, make choices, communicate preferences and have their personal boundaries respected.

We promote individual liberty by:

- Providing opportunities for pupils to make meaningful and informed choices.
- Supporting pupils to develop independence, self-confidence, resilience and self-esteem.
- Encouraging pupils to express agreement or disagreement and understand their right to say 'yes' or 'no'.
- Developing pupils' understanding of personal safety, consent, healthy relationships and appropriate boundaries.
- Supporting pupils to recognise risks and understand how to seek help when needed, both online and offline.
- Providing opportunities to take on responsibilities appropriate to their individual abilities and aspirations.

- Encouraging pupils to recognise that exercising individual rights also involves respecting the rights of others.
- Promoting individuality and personal expression.

Our school does not have a compulsory uniform, providing pupils with opportunities to express their individuality while developing respect for the choices of others.

Pupils are also encouraged to contribute positively to society through participation in charitable initiatives, including Comic Relief and Children in Need.

We believe that fostering independence, kindness and a sense of belonging supports pupils' emotional wellbeing and prepares them for life beyond school.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is central to the ethos of Stone Lodge School. We promote an inclusive environment in which every individual is valued, respected and supported to achieve their potential.

We recognise and celebrate individual differences and are committed to promoting equality of opportunity for all pupils.

We promote mutual respect by:

- Modelling respectful language, attitudes and behaviour throughout the school community.
- Encouraging kindness, empathy, cooperation and positive relationships.
- Providing inclusive opportunities for pupils to learn, play and work alongside others.
- Supporting pupils to understand and respect different perspectives, experiences and opinions.
- Using restorative practice to develop understanding, resolve conflict and strengthen relationships.
- Challenging bullying, prejudice, discrimination, harassment and intolerant attitudes.
- Providing accessible opportunities to participate in community events, sporting activities and shared experiences with other schools and colleges.
- Supporting pupils to develop an age-appropriate understanding of equality and the protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act 2010.

Our personalised curriculum provides opportunities for pupils to engage with a wide range of people, including visitors, coaches, theatre groups, community organisations and pupils from other educational settings.

We recognise the importance of community participation and believe that our pupils, families and staff have a valuable contribution to make to the wider community.

Tolerance of Those with Different Faiths and Beliefs

Stone Lodge School is committed to fostering a culture of acceptance, understanding and respect for the diversity of modern Britain.

We believe that every individual should be treated with dignity and respect, regardless of their disability, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, cultural heritage or background.
We recognise and respect the rights of individuals to hold different religious and non-religious beliefs, including the right to hold no religious belief.

We promote tolerance and understanding by:

- Providing opportunities for pupils to learn about different religions, cultures, traditions and beliefs.
- Exploring religious and cultural celebrations through curriculum activities and wider school experiences.
- Supporting pupils to develop an understanding of their own identity, beliefs and values.
- Encouraging curiosity, respectful discussion and appreciation of different ways of life.
- Providing opportunities to meet people from different cultural and religious backgrounds.
- Challenging stereotypes, prejudice, discrimination and intolerance.
- Celebrating both the diversity of our communities and the values and experiences we share.

Through our humanities curriculum, cultural experiences, educational visits and community participation, pupils are encouraged to develop an understanding of the diverse society in which they live.

Participation in sporting activities further supports pupils' understanding of fairness, teamwork, cooperation and respect for others.

Inclusion, Equality and Personal Development

At Stone Lodge School, personal development is an entitlement for every pupil.

We are committed to removing barriers to participation and ensuring that pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) have meaningful access to learning and enrichment opportunities.

Through personalised learning, reasonable adjustments and appropriate communication support, we aim to enable all pupils to develop the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to participate in society as confidently and independently as possible.

We recognise that pupils may demonstrate their understanding of fundamental British values in different ways. Progress may be reflected through increased independence, improved communication, positive relationships, informed decision-making, emotional regulation and greater participation within the school and wider community.

Our aim is to prepare pupils for adulthood, supporting them to become responsible, respectful and active citizens who are equipped to make a positive contribution to society.

Safeguarding and the Prevent Duty

The promotion of fundamental British values is closely linked to our commitment to safeguarding, equality, inclusion and the Prevent Duty.

We aim to support pupils to develop the knowledge, confidence and understanding necessary to recognise unsafe situations, challenge inappropriate behaviour and seek support from trusted adults. We actively promote respect for others and challenge attitudes and behaviours that undermine fundamental British values, including prejudice, discrimination, hatred and extremism.

We recognise that some pupils may experience difficulties communicating their feelings, worries or concerns. Staff remain alert to changes in behaviour, presentation, communication and emotional wellbeing that may indicate distress or vulnerability.

All safeguarding concerns are responded to in accordance with the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and established safeguarding procedures.

We work closely with parents, carers and other professionals to promote pupils' safety, welfare, wellbeing and personal development.

Our Ongoing Commitment

At Stone Lodge School, fundamental British values are not taught in isolation. They are embedded within our curriculum, relationships, daily routines, enrichment opportunities and wider school culture.

We are committed to continually reviewing our provision to ensure that opportunities for personal development are accessible, meaningful and responsive to the needs of all pupils.

Through our inclusive and personalised approach, we strive to ensure that every pupil feels safe, valued, respected and empowered to achieve their potential.

Our overarching aim is to equip pupils with the knowledge, skills, confidence and understanding they need to lead happy, safe and fulfilling lives as valued members of modern British society.