



Maharishi School
British Values Policy

British Values

At Maharishi School we recognise not only the importance of helping pupils to develop academically but morally, socially and culturally too. We aim to nurture the growth of our pupils through the artistic, academic, creative, practical, social, moral, physical and spiritual aspects of school life. One of the themes that underlies the ethos of our school is 'The World is my family'. This theme embodies all these important British values as they are identified by the government.

They are:

- Democracy
- Rule of law
- Individual liberty & Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

Our aim is that our pupils are fully prepared for life in British society, to take their role as good citizens, able to make the best possible contribution to the Common Good. At Maharishi School we believe that we are part of nature's process, providing the opportunity for each individual to flourish in order to serve the Common Good.

Within a framework of Consciousness-based values, we teach the importance of British Values by going much deeper into the meaning of what it is to live a good life. This provides the context and meaning for understanding why British values are important.

At Maharishi School we provide a Consciousness-based Education which focuses on the formation of the whole person and on our vocation and purpose in life. We place a significant emphasis on the celebration of individuality and difference within our communities and our calling to work for the Common Good, in the service of others.

Our ethos makes a tangible difference to the way we work together and with our wider communities. Within this framework it would be impossible to overlook the government's view of British values expressed as 'democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.'

The examples that follow are an indication of some of the many ways we seek to encourage British values at Maharishi School:

Democracy

- School Council and Student voice
- Involving pupils in decision making
- Taking part in debates
- Highlighting the development of democratic ideas in history lessons
- Ensuring all pupils are listened to by adults
- Inviting speakers to the school
- Participating in the Pupil Parliament as run by Shares (the local Cluster group of which we are a member)
- The introduction of Philosophy for Kids to provide a platform for pupils to learn about democracy, rule of law, respect and tolerance.

The Rule of Law

- Having a clear behaviour policy that is explained to all

Individual Liberty and Mutual Respect

- Encouraging pupils to be independent in their learning
- Providing pupils with opportunities for reflection.
- Mutual respect
- Constantly promoting respect for others as good manners
- Reinforcing the value of everyone's opinions.
- Having an effective anti-bullying policy
- Having educational links with other schools
- Supporting charitable works

As a school community we are active in taking responsibility for others, those in our community and those in need around us locally, nationally and internationally.

Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Maharishi School is a Non-faith school, however we:

- Learn about different faiths, particularly the history and tradition of festivals & holy days.
- Focusing on rights and responsibilities
- Respect for different ethnicity and belief is upheld by our anti-bullying policy