



Farney Close School

School Statement on British Values and SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural)

Do we promote Fundamental British Values and Social, Moral, Social and Cultural learning?

In accordance with The Department for Education we aim to actively promote British values in schools to ensure young people leave school prepared for life in modern Britain. Pupils are encouraged to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance and understand that while different people may hold different views about what is "right" and "wrong", all people living in England are subject to its law.

The Key Values are:

- democracy
- rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect
- tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

We aim to give pupils at Farney Close a rounded education. This involves devoting time in lessons, on the residential units and during evening activities to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects of learning, looking to develop their understanding of other cultures and complex moral issues.

What do we hope to achieve?

It is expected that this diverse, structured and focused approach to the curriculum, across the 24-hour day, will inspire pupils to pursue their chosen areas of interest. It is hoped that they will benefit from their choices at the time they happen and

afterwards, helping them to share their interests with others, including their friends and families.

We also want their learning process to help pupils recognise the contributions or challenges of others and to aim high and to achieve themselves. Through this we would like our pupils to feel a greater sense of wellbeing and to achieve sufficient, robust and sustainable levels of self-esteem. This will not only help them feel good about themselves but enable them to be resilient when faced with life's challenges.

We aim to provide learning that promotes an active, positive lifestyle that will help pupils to be resistant to mental health issues. We hope to provide them with a sense of warmth and wonder about their school days which they can then pass on to their own children to provide them with a positive model for life. We also want to provide a curriculum that will reflect a common, Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural experience; one that offers opportunities that challenge, affirm and develop a pupil's beliefs and core values in order that they can act with personal, community and society responsibility whilst adhering to the fundamental British Values.

When do we formally celebrate diversity and recognise the culture of others as well as promoting British values?

We regularly celebrate the cultures and diversity of other countries throughout the year, but pay particular attention to this in October, which is our multi-cultural month. At all times we actively promote British values such as democracy, respect, and the functional expectations of society so pupils can make a positive contribution to society on a personal and community level. We also encourage adherence to the laws of the land, and tolerance and respect towards all people. We pay particular note to the specific characteristics set out in The Equality act 2010. The school has a range of documents that underpin this.

How do we achieve this?

We provide a wide range of organised activities and experiences. These include ethnic cookery lessons, quizzes, competitions and film shows, school meals themed to reflect a particular countries style of food, a world music workshop, and an interactive encounter with mini-beasts from around the world. This is evidenced through a photographic display of all the activities after the events. Pupils also participate in trips to broaden their knowledge. These areas are further complimented during the curriculum enrichment week. Trips include visits to places of worship, for example a Synagogue in Crawley, the Neasden Hindu Temple and Westminster Abbey. Places of historical interest include the royal navy

dockyard Portsmouth, Houses of Parliament, The Tower of London, and Bletchley Park. Visits of artistic interest include visits to The Tate Gallery, The Cass Sculpture Park and The National Gallery. More physical activities include camping in separate groups for boys and girls, adventure / theme parks and activity centres. Pupils also work with animal welfare in local centres and visit farms.

Within teaching time pupils continue to access a wide range of places of interest to build knowledge and understanding. This includes visits to museums, such as the British museum, the Science museum and the Natural History museum, a trip to the World War 1 war graves and memorial at Vimy Ridge in France, the Sea-life centre, The Science park, Bodiam Castle, The Amberley Chalk Museum for countryside skills and the South of England Show.

How do people external to the school help educate our Pupils?

Public speakers have been invited into school to talk to the pupils about Sexual Health, Cyber safety, Internet Safety, Knife Crime, Drug Awareness, Driving whilst under the influence of drink or drugs, and a range of Careers and Pathways. Pupils in Key Stage 4 attend a series of Careers fairs over the course of the year. Pupils also participate in range of sporting activities and we are members of the Surrey Special Schools Sports Association and the Sussex Youth Association.

The school actively participates in the annual National Anti-Bullying week and we have previously won a regional competition for our work in this area. We are very aware of the importance of E-Safety and Internet Safety. We have sought to make parents and carers aware of this through newsletters, links on the school's website and circulars. We have also worked with the community police liaison officer, inviting them to raise pupils' awareness through workshops in school. Parents and carers have had the opportunity to participate in both an e-safety and an Internet Safety workshops with this Officer.

How do we raise pupil's awareness of others?

For several years now, we have used fundraising to raise pupils' awareness of others. This has included charities such as Red Nose day and Children in Need, MacMillan Cancer Trust, and various animal charities. We have also participated in "Movember" which aims to raise awareness of men's health on testicular cancer, raised funds for a township school in Alexandra, South Africa benefited through the schools Enterprise Day. This particular fundraising event included Christmas Jumper day, non-school uniform day, cake sales, sponsored walks and stalls during school functions such as Open Day. Parents and carers are encouraged to support school fundraising. Donations from home enabled us to make up Food Hampers at

Christmas 2017 which staff and pupils delivered to a local sheltered housing group. Other initiatives that Christmas included pupils taking parcels of essential items to the Homeless in Brighton.

Farney Close has also partnered with a small NGO in Ghana called Ankoma Outreach (AO). Initially, this was for Black History Month in 2015, but the young people invested into it so well, that it has been ongoing since then.

Ankoma is a small village living with extreme poverty on a daily basis. A special assembly detailed what it is like to live there and looked at the work that AO does to help the community try to become more self-sufficient.

The people of Ankoma have nothing but the biggest hearts and smiles and it is great that the school is able to help as so little goes so far out there and it is really beneficial. The pupils all voted on different projects that they wanted to help the village with and we set out to raise £300! This would buy a Water Tank and also pay for a malaria outreach, covering malaria tests and cures. The children were really engaged, and it is an invaluable experience to help those even less fortunate than themselves.

Pupils have held various fundraising events, such as a sponsored walk, a cake sale and tombola in Burgess Hill and the school choir sang along with the Ankoma choir during the children's Christmas carol service! We also had a number of activities where our youngsters made small gifts to ensure that at least 100 children in Ghana got their first ever Christmas present and some pupils donated clothes and toys too.

One of our Residential Social Care Workers volunteers with AO, giving up 3 summers and 1 Christmas to go out to Ghana. He took all the presents, helped to build the Community Water Tank and went on the malaria outreach.

This involvement and subsequent feedback at assemblies makes it all the more tangible for the young people and the reaction has been phenomenal, smashing the original £300 target! We have currently raised £3812.40 and hope to hit £4000 very soon.

So far, Farney Close has fundraised for: A Community Water Tank; A Malaria Outreach Programme; The refurbishment of 2 Classrooms; Building a new Kindergarten Classroom; Feeding 150 children per day for 5 weeks of Summer School; Installing 2 new Street Lights; Contributing towards a life-saving operation for a very poorly 8-year-old girl and contributing to the costs of bringing 5 Ghanaian children across to the UK. These young people are due to stay at the school for three days in September 2018 and lots of our pupils will have the

opportunity to spend time with our guests and be with them so all parties experience a collaborative cultural and educational experience.

Are there other ways that pupils are encouraged to experience the wider community?

Pupils at the school have also been involved in voluntary work, supporting PMLD pupils in a local school and elderly people in local day centres. Unfortunately changes to the provision in each of these organisations have meant that this has stopped, though we are looking for opportunities to restart something similar.

Again, looking to support pupils understanding of the wider community and world events, the school achieved “Get Set Status.” as part of the Olympic preparation in 2012, and continues to use this to promote the Olympic and Paralympic values which also reflect British values and those of our community:

- respect – fair play; knowing one’s own limits; and taking care of one’s health and the environment
- excellence – how to give the best of oneself, on the field of play or in life; taking part; and progressing according to one’s own objectives
- friendship – how, through sport, to understand each other despite any differences
- courage
- determination
- inspiration
- equality.

How do pupils gain a more personalized perspective of British values and SMSC?

Each pupil completes an Independence Skills Assessment with their Link Worker each year to help both parties identify areas that will be addressed over the coming year in the pupil’s Care Plan Package. Our year 12 & 13 students have a more detailed Independence programme which they live with and practice throughout the year.

Political awareness and an understanding of current affairs are often developed through newspapers and television. Our Speech and Language Therapist has worked with the Care Team and introduced “Talking Homework”. This involves two topical subjects each month (ie Royal weddings, Halloween, Political election, World Cup etc.) which are displayed on the House with the Residential team encouraging conversation surrounding these heading whenever the opportunity

arises. The S&L Therapist also introduce “Idiom of the week” to help our more literal pupil’s recognition the variation of meanings.

A more formal approach to educative learning can be found in PSHE lessons and other areas of the curriculum, such as Science, Technology, RE and History. These events are also discussed on houses with RSCW’s. At major events, such as general elections, pupils are encouraged to debate and vote. On a smaller scale, school democracy is enlivened through discussion and decision making in the School Forum.

During the evening we encourage young people to take part in new experiences to help increase their self-esteem and feeling of self-worth. The school has a wide range of activities available for pupils, including scuba diving, Zumba dance classes, windsurfing, archery, music making in a recording studio, Street Dancing, Bollywood dancing and tribal evenings via the Sussex Youth Club Society. The school has a large sports hall which caters for a wide variety of sports. Pupils can also be involved in Bingo, Mountain Bike riding, fishing Bush Craft, Head to Toe, Youth Club, local cinema, bowling or laser quest trips, Bouldering, Horse Riding, Beach trips, Swimming, and Cooking. Pupils can also just relax on houses, watch TV or play computer games. Although limited to pupils because of the nature of their difficulties, the school supports pupils’ interests in external clubs such as the Army Cadets and Police Cadets.

The school runs its own events to recognise national celebrations. For example, this includes a long established and successful Christmas production and a Carol Service. Many pupils make Christmas cakes to take them home to share with their family. Christmas lunch and school production brings the festivities to a close.

We believe that this wide and diverse range of experiences allows each and every pupil the chance to understand the wider world and their place within it, to see opportunities to develop personal interests, and to build self-esteem, resilience, confidence, tolerance and understanding within a diverse world.