

Abbot Beyne School

Person Responsible:	Mrs H Scott
Governors Committee:	FGB
Revised Date:	Autumn 2026
Next Review Date:	Autumn 2027

British Values 2026-27

1. Policy Statement and Ethos

Abbot Beyne School is committed to working closely and in harmony with its community in celebrating the diversity of modern Britain. We aim to prepare students fully for life in modern Britain, ensuring that our school ethos, curriculum, pastoral care, and teaching strategies systematically reflect, embed, and actively promote fundamental British values.

We recognise that these values are not exclusive to being British; they are globally accepted principles within democratic societies designed to build an orderly, safe, and equitable society where every individual feels valued, protected, and empowered to contribute positively to the wider community.

Our school works alongside our local community and values the variety of cultural traditions and religious beliefs within it. Students actively participate in local events and engage with community representatives to appreciate their valuable contributions. All academic departments are responsible for embedding British values within their schemes of work, ensuring cross-curricular delivery.

2. Key action areas

To actively promote these values, Abbot Beyne School takes structured opportunities to:

- **Acknowledge, celebrate, and commemorate national events and historical milestones:** We deliver structured assemblies, history modules, and cross-curricular focus days to mark key national anniversaries, remembrance commemorations, and democratic landmarks. This ensures students gain a broad understanding of Britain's shared heritage, constitutional evolution, and civic identity.
- **Engage with international sporting and cultural events:** We use global sporting events (such as the Olympics, World Cups, and Commonwealth Games) to study host nations, international cooperation, fair play, and global diversity. Lessons explore sportsmanship, cultural exchange, and how international rules reflect mutual respect.
- **Support student-led charitable initiatives and social action:** Students actively select and lead fundraising campaigns for local, national, and international charities. Through these activities, students learn civic responsibility, empathy, and how active participation can support vulnerable groups and address inequality.
- **Invite diverse local community members into school events:** We routinely invite civic leaders, faith representatives, emergency service personnel, and local volunteers to speak at assemblies, workshops, and career events. This connects students directly to public institutions and helps them appreciate the diversity of roles that strengthen our society.

3. Statutory duties, Safeguarding, and Prevent strategy

Abbot Beyne School fully recognises its statutory duties under Section 78 of the Education Act 2002 (promoting spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development) and the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (Prevent Duty). We understand our critical role in preventing radicalisation, identifying early signs of susceptibility to extreme narratives, and protecting students from harm. Through balanced critical thinking, open debate, online safety instruction, and robust pastoral care, we help students develop a nuanced, informed worldview while understanding Britain's position and responsibilities within the global community.

4. The five fundamental British Values in detail

Democracy

- **Curriculum integration:** Through History, English,Citizenship and PSHE, students study the development of British democracy, parliamentary systems, voting rights, and how citizens influence policy through peaceful protest, petitioning, and voting.
- **Debate & critical thinking:** Classroom environments encourage respectful debate, teaching students how to present reasoned arguments, evaluate evidence, and accept democratic outcomes even when they disagree.

The rule of law

- **School Behavior Framework:** School rules, code of conduct, and anti-bullying policies are consistently enforced, helping students understand the connection between rules, individual responsibility, safety, and fairness.
- **Legal literacy:** Students are taught to distinguish between civil and criminal law in England and understand that the law applies equally to all citizens, including those in authority.
- **External engagement:** Regular visits and workshops from the local police, and other professionals, reinforce the role of the judiciary and emergency services in maintaining justice.

Individual liberty

- **Personal choice & responsibility:** Within a safe and supportive school environment, students are encouraged to make informed choices regarding their academic pathways, co-curricular options, and post-16 opportunities.
- **Rights & online safety:** Students are educated on their human rights and personal freedoms (such as freedom of speech and expression), alongside the legal and moral limits of those rights—particularly regarding digital literacy, online safety, and preventing hate speech.
- **Self-confidence & identity:** Pastoral support and PSHE modules empower students to develop self-knowledge, self-esteem, resilience, and personal identity without fear of peer pressure or judgment.

Mutual respect

- **Inclusive ethos:** Respect is a core expectation across all daily interactions between students, staff, visitors, and the wider community.
- **Challenging discrimination:** Staff actively challenge discriminatory language, prejudice, stereotyping, or anti-social behavior in line with the Equality Act 2010 and school reporting procedures.
- **Collaborative learning:** Group work, peer mentoring, peer reading, sports teams, and performing arts showcases encourage students to collaborate across different age groups, backgrounds, and ability levels.

Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

- **Religious Education (RE) & Worldviews:** Our RE curriculum delivers comprehensive instruction on major world religions, non-religious worldviews, and philosophical perspectives, promoting understanding and critical reflection.
- **Cultural diversity & harmony:** Assemblies, PSHE, Citizenship and RE, alongside guest speakers provide opportunities to explore different cultural heritage traditions, countering prejudice through direct engagement.
- **Safe spaces for discussion:** We provide safe environments for pupils to discuss sensitive topical issues, ensuring all views expressed adhere to respect, legal frameworks, and human rights.