



## **British Values Statement**

The Department for Education states that there is a need, 'to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.' At James Bateman Middle School, these values underpin our ethos and culture and are reinforced in the following ways:

### **Democracy:**

At James Bateman Middle School we have developed a culture built on freedom and equality where everyone is aware of their rights and responsibilities within a safe and nurturing environment. Our enthusiastic School Council is at the core of our school, providing opportunities for elected pupils to share views, concerns and ideas. Regular opportunities for pupil voice/questionnaires, curriculum led activities and links to the wider community ensure that pupils' voices are heard and acted upon.

### **The Rule of Law:**

All pupils are made aware of the need for rules in order to make a safe, happy and secure environment in which to live and thrive. This is promoted within our school through the delivery of assemblies, curriculum-based activities and by linking their own experiences and knowledge with that of the wider community.

### **Individual Liberty:**

Pupils at James Bateman Middle School are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. This freedom of choice is promoted throughout the curriculum and by offering different styles of learning. Our school also offers a range of enrichment opportunities outside of the classroom and the freedom to access a range of activities outside of the classroom including visits and experiences.

### **Mutual Respect:**

This is at the core of our school's ethos as part of the Behaviour Policy, ensuring that our pupils and staff clearly understand that, while people may hold different views, we should show respect towards them. Pupils have participated in discussions and assemblies relating to what mutual respect means and represents. It is further promoted throughout our curriculum and forms a key part of our extra-curricular programme. Opportunities to celebrate examples of respect and tolerance form a large part of our rewards system and are highlighted in our Special Mentions Assemblies.

### **Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:**

At James Bateman Middle School we actively encourage both pupils and staff to accept that others have different faiths or beliefs (including those who have none) and to understand that these should be accepted and tolerated. We promote this belief through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society, providing opportunities to experience such diversity through assemblies, the wider curriculum, through links with the wider community and, more specifically, during our annual Faith in Focus Day.