



VALUES POLICY SEPTEMBER 2023

Rationale

Our ethos at Shalford Infant School is underpinned by core values which support the development of the whole child as a reflective learner within a calm, caring, happy and harmonious school community where children, staff and parents feel safe and secure.

Aims

Through our values education programme at Shalford we aim to:

- Develop children's understanding of what values are and why they are important in life
- Help children to think about and reflect on different emotions and actions and take responsibility for their own choices
- Encourage children to 'live the values' in all aspects of their lives both in school and out
- Promote values to pupils in every aspect of school – through work and play
- Promote values in the way in which we as adults interact with each other and with pupils
- Improve behaviour and conduct by developing strong values within the pupils at the school
- Display our school values and encourage all visitors to take account of them during their time within the school
- Encourage parents to support the programme at home by promoting the 'value of the month' to parents in newsletters and through value workshops within classrooms
- Encourage children to use our values as a positive approach to completing their learning tasks to ensure they succeed with confidence and self-belief

Teaching and Learning

We focus on a value each month, addressed directly through lessons and assemblies as well as permeating the whole curriculum. We use stories, songs and role play as well as celebrating examples of values in action at Shalford.

The values were selected by children, staff, parents and governors, and are recognised as being important within the school community and throughout life. Children are encouraged to reflect on the value and what it means to them and their own behaviour, and to use the value to guide their own actions.

Staff model the value through their own behaviour and governors and parents are involved in the values programme through newsletters which explain what we hope to achieve each month and how school and home can work together to promote positive values. We encourage parents to share ways in which their children show our values at home by completing a leaf for our values tree which is celebrated in assembly.

Values are displayed and promoted in different ways in classrooms and around school and we also involve the whole school communities in values events and workshops.

Benefits for the Children

- Children behave more calmly and purposefully
- Children are able to reflect more on their own behaviour
- Children are more self-aware and self-accepting
- Children are more considerate to others and less ego-centred
- Children take a greater responsibility for their own actions
- Children are better equipped to function successfully in society as they grow up

Appendix I

Shalford Infant School

Monthly Values and their definitions for children

Resilience	Always trying your hardest and not giving up, even when something is challenging.
Respect	Thinking and acting in a way that shows you care about yourself, others and the world.
Kindness	Being caring and helpful, and looking after others.
Gratitude	Feeling thankful and happy when good things happen to us.
Cooperation	Listening to everyone's ideas and working as a team.
Empathy	Understanding what it is like to be someone else and feeling what they are feeling.
Tolerance	Treating everyone the same because it is OK to be different.
Honesty	Speaking the truth and acting truthfully.
Courage	Deciding to do something difficult even when you feel afraid.
Responsibility	Being trusted by others to make good choices.
Achievement	Reaching a goal, however big or small.