



At Houldsworth Valley Primary Academy we promote the British Values:

- **Democracy**
- **The rule of law**
- **Individual liberty**
- **Mutual respect**
- **Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs**

At Houldsworth Valley Primary Academy you will encounter these values throughout our everyday school life. Our promotion of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural understanding is excellent.

Below is a snap shot of how we promote these values in our school community.

### DEMOCRACY

Pupil voice plays a big part in life at Houldsworth Valley. Our pupil elected **school council/Rights Respecting Leaders** play a strong role in our school. This has included ensuring the school car park is safer, improving lunchtime activities and raising money for charities. They are elected by their class peers and are involved in making Houldsworth Valley a better place to learn. Pupils have input in their learning and what they would like to learn which promotes pupil voice. **Road Safety Officers and Eco-Leaders** apply for roles and are interviewed. A School **Safety group** and **Year 6 Problem-Solvers** are in place. **Pupil questionnaires** and **interviews** are also conducted throughout the year. We know that the formation of the school council and the active participation of our pupils will sow the seeds for a more sophisticated understanding of democracy in the future.

### THE RULE OF LAW

Our pupils will encounter rules and laws throughout their entire lives. We want our pupils to understand that whether these laws govern the class, the school, the neighbourhood or the country, they are set for good reasons and must be adhered to. This understanding of the importance of rules will be consistently reinforced through assemblies and our curriculum. The involvement of our pupils in the creation of the **school and class rules** and expectations helps them to understand the reasons behind rules and the consequences if rules are broken. We allow opportunity to **debate** and discuss the reasons for laws so children can recognise the importance of these for their own protection. Throughout the year we welcome **visits** from members of the wider community including police, authors, war veterans, the fire brigade and many more. We believe that clear explanations and real life stories emphasise the importance of the Rule of Law for our pupils.

### INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY

We invest a lot of time in creating a positive culture in our school, so children are in a safe environment where choices and freedoms are encouraged. In lessons, learning tasks are often left for the child to decide upon. We encourage children to choose the task that will challenge them, giving them more freedom to determine their own learning. We offer a range of **clubs** which pupils have the freedom to choose from, based on their interests. Through our **E-Safety and PSHE** sessions, we educate children on their rights and personal freedoms as well as supporting them in recognising how to exercise these freedoms safely. We are a silver '**Rights Respecting**' School. This includes a fortnightly Assembly where UNICEF articles are discussed and woven articles embedded throughout the curriculum daily. We have a '**current affairs**' club for Year 4 & 5 in which we encourage pupils to debate and discuss topical issues including latest news and politics. At Houldsworth Valley we believe that valuing choice and freedom in daily school life will foster a value for individual liberty as the children embark upon their adult lives.

**Next Steps:** Become an accredited GOLD Rights Respecting School.

## MUTUAL RESPECT

Our pupils learn together with absolute respect for each other regardless of language or ethnic group. We change learning partners and groups regularly (e.g. **Success For All**) and every pupil knows that we respect and appreciate each other; no matter what differences may exist. The 'grow' part of our vision reinforces that 'we work as a team with all stakeholders learning from one another and collaborating'. Our **8 secrets to success** and '**hidden curriculum**' encourage understanding others. Mutual respect is at the core of our school life.

## TOLERANCE OF THOSE OF DIFFERENT FAITHS AND BELIEFS

We '**have achieved the bronze Lingual-Mark**'. We respect and celebrate diversity. We offer a culturally rich and diverse curriculum in which all major religions are studied and respected. Parents and leaders of **different faiths** are welcomed to the school to share their beliefs. At Houldsworth Valley we strongly believe that tolerance is gained through knowledge and understanding. Through our curriculum that has **global links** and the routines of our daily school life, we strive to demonstrate tolerance and help children to become knowledgeable and understanding citizens who can build a better Britain for the future.

**Appendix 1: What does SMSC mean to Houldsworth Valley Primary Academy?**

**SPIRITUAL**

**Definition**

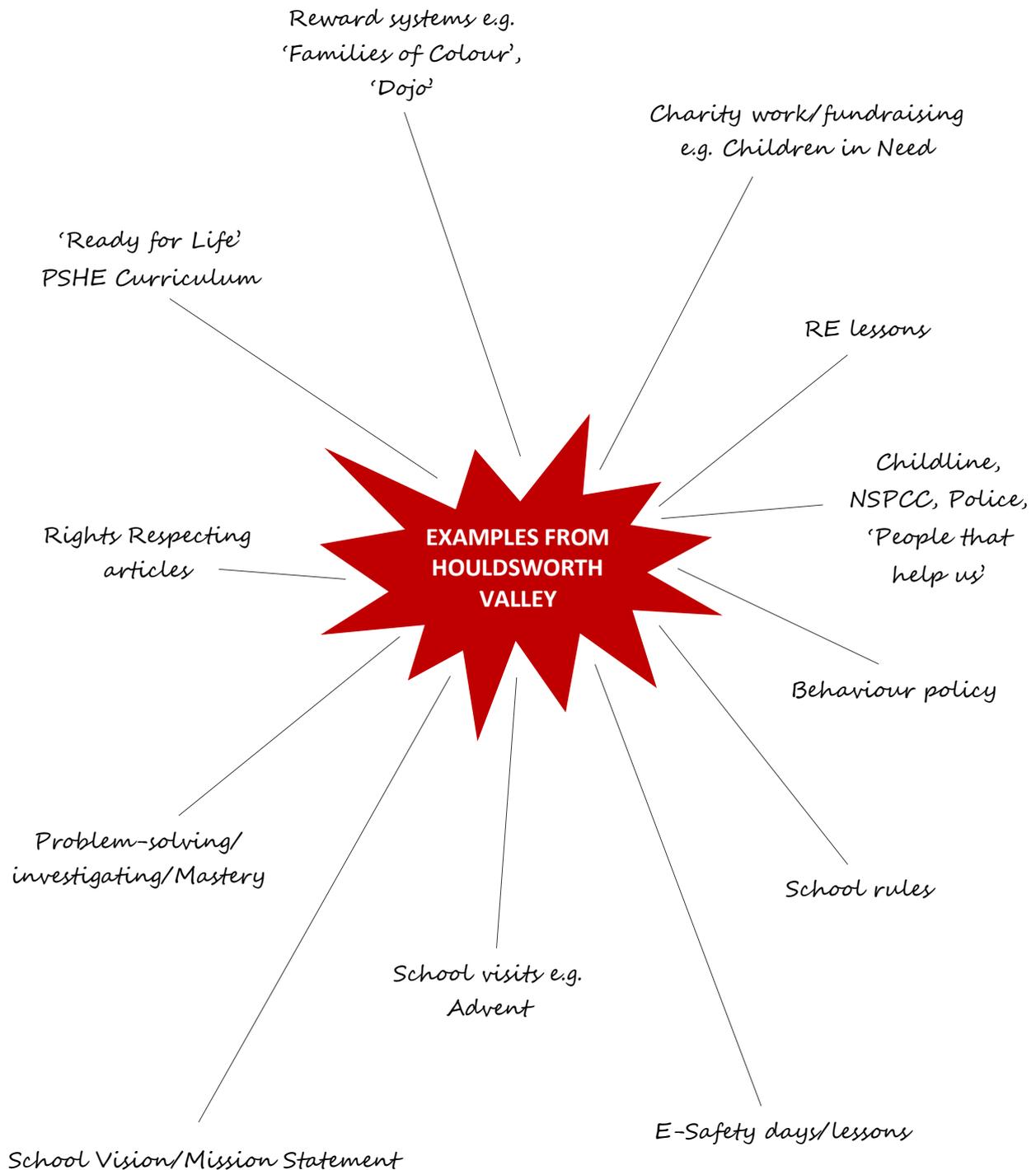
Explore beliefs and experience; respect faiths, feelings and values; enjoy learning about oneself, others and the surrounding world; use imagination and creativity; reflect.



# MORAL

## Definition

Recognise right and wrong; respect the law; understand consequences; investigate moral and ethical issues; offer reasoned views.



## SOCIAL

### Definition

Use a range of social skills; participate in the local community; appreciate diverse viewpoints; participate, volunteer and cooperate; resolve conflict; engage with the **'British values'** of democracy, the rule of law, liberty, respect and tolerance.



## CULTURAL

### Definition

Appreciate cultural influences; appreciate the role of Britain's parliamentary system; participate in culture opportunities; understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity.

