

Promoting British Values

The DfE have recently reinforced the 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, mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.”

The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent strategy, and these values have been reiterated by the prime minister this year. At Fleckney C of E Primary School these values are promoted, reinforced and embedded in our curriculum and school ethos.

Democracy

Democracy is promoted within the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council and Pupil questionnaires. The elections of class representatives are based solely on pupil votes. Each teacher has different ways in which the pupils make their voices heard in their classroom eg. through Circle Time, R Time, discussions and decisions over classroom rules. We try to challenge injustice through our curriculum through the study of people such as the Ancient Greeks, the Suffragettes and Walter Tull.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws and rules, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days and through school assemblies. The children are taught right from wrong. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws; that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. The children have a clear understanding of sanctions for poor behaviour, and these are applied consistently across the school. Visits from authorities such as the Police, Fire Service and Road Safety Officers are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message. Each class develops its own set of class rules through a class contract, which all of the children sign. These are displayed in the classrooms and set out clear expectations of behaviour. These expectations are reinforced at home as each family also signs the Home School Agreement .

Individual Liberty

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our e-safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it be through the choice of the challenge, or how they record the task, or participation on our numerous extra-curricular activities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices. All pupils work towards incentives as part of our reward system; these include house points and pupil of the week certificates. At break and lunch times children are encouraged to use the outside spaces sensibly with respect for others and according to their own personal choices. We also have a green cube system for rewarding good lunchtime behaviour which fits into our house point system (lunchtime champions). Our shared values in the school promote both staff and children as good role models and we take opportunities to challenge stereotypes whenever the opportunities arise. Children learn

that with freedom and individual liberty comes responsibility, both to the local community and the wider world. Our Global Learning Partnership work explores this concept in particular.

Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs.

Our school ethos and behaviour policy revolves around our core values and vision. The meaning of 'respect' and how it is shown is discussed in lessons and assemblies. Displays around the school promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom rules, and our rewards and sanctions approach. The children have a bench where they can sit at play times, if they need someone to play with or just want to sit quietly and read. This helps to promote friendships and respect for each other. Teachers and adults treat every child equally and fairly. This is reinforced by our equality policy where respect for everyone is a core value. We also support events such as Anti-Bullying week, which the school participates in annually.

We promote respect through R time and Circle Time. We provide opportunities for children to learn to respect others through our curriculum and our enrichment activities. Sixth Form pupils from different faiths have come into talk to the children about what it is like to be a young Muslim or Sikh growing up in modern Britain. We have held cultural days for our pupils celebrating life and traditions in countries such as France, China and Japan. We have built an African garden in a joint project with our inner city partner school. We promote respect through an active Accessibility Plan where we support inclusion. Visitors with disabilities are welcomed to assemblies. A visually impaired member of our community and her guide dog came into talk about her life to our KS1 children. We support a range of charities where children learn about helping others less fortunate than themselves. The pupils often get together and run their own cake sales to promote these charities.

The children's understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society is enhanced by our curriculum and by giving them opportunities to experience different cultures and faiths. Assemblies and discussions tackle prejudice and prejudice-based bullying and this is further supported by the RE and PSHE curriculums. Prejudiced-based bullying includes the use of any discriminatory language based on race, gender, disability and sexual orientation. Members of different faiths are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance the pupils' learning. The children learn about different festivals and as part of the RE curriculum we visit places of worship such as cathedrals, churches, mosques and Gudwaras. The school has been awarded the International Schools Award and we are the lead school for our Global Learning Partnership. We have links with schools in China, Japan, the Netherlands, Brazil and the Gambia.