

British Values at Wootton Wawen CE Primary School

In November 2014, the DfE 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 and 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 in advice published by the DfE in the publication Promoting fundamental British as part of SMSC in schools.

At our school these values are reinforced in the following ways:

Democracy

Democracy is well embedded within the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council. The election to the School Council reflects the British electoral system. Candidates make speeches, a secret vote takes place and representatives are elected from year 1 to 6. The School Council meet regularly and are involved in all many whole school developments including promoting road safety and organising new extra-curricular clubs. Our school behaviour and values policies involve rewards and sanctions; this is shared through all aspects of school life and also shared with parents, carers and children from Reception to Year 6.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws and rules, whether they are those that govern the class, the school or country, are constantly reinforced. Our policy for behaviour is based on clear SMART rules which address behaviour and attitudes:

S - Safe

M-Manners

A-Attitude

R-Respect

T -Teamwork

All pupils are aware of the rewards and sanctions that are part of this.

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. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service are regular and help reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty

Within school, pupils are encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. We educate and provide boundaries for all pupils to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment. We also encourage children to make decisions within their learning. Pupils are able to participate in the decisions relating to the level of challenge they undertake in numeracy lessons and topics to research in their POW projects. We present pupils with relevant information regarding E-safety and personal freedoms through our computing and PSHE and C curriculum. We also offer pupils a wide range of extra-curricular clubs they can choose to participate in.

Mutual Respect

Our school ethos and behaviour policy revolves around core values such as respect. Pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies related to what respect means and how it is shown. Adults throughout the school model, demonstrate and promote respect for others as do older children who have suitable, age related, tasks and responsibilities and this is reiterated through our SMART behaviour rules.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Our school is situated in an area, which is not culturally diverse. Consequently, we place a great emphasis on promoting diversity with our children. RE teaching, PSHE, and assemblies are planned to address this issue either directly or through the inclusion of stories and celebrations from a variety of faiths and cultures. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school as a whole. Pupils have the opportunity to visit places of worship that are important to different faiths. Our school has forged links with a school in France.