

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 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 this year (2014). At Fordley Primary School these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy

Fordley Primary School is in the process of becoming a UNICEF Rights Respecting school. Each year the children decide upon their class charter and the rights associate with these. All the children contribute to the drawing up of the charter. Children have many opportunities for their voices to be heard. We have a school council which meets regularly to discuss issues raised in class discussions. The council is able to genuinely effect change within the school and their suggestions are taken seriously by the Senior Leadership Team and Governors. The children in the council take different roles including Chairman and Vice Chairman. In addition, each year in Year 5/6 the children have the chance to become Head Boy/Girl (Y6) and Deputy Head Boy/Girl (Y5). In order to attain one of these prestigious positions the children take part in a recruitment process, including a job application and an interview with the Head Teacher and the Chair of Governors. The successful pupils act as representatives of the pupil body in numerous events throughout the school year and provide a brilliant role model to the younger children in the school.

The Rule of Law

The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. 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. Children are fully aware of our Golden rules and fully understand the clear rewards and sanctions that are in place. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service help reinforce the importance of the rule of law as well as helping to keep our pupils safe.

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 young pupils to make choices safely, through 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 is through the choice of learning challenge, how they record their work, or participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices and realise the importance of being an individual.

Mutual Respect

As a school in the process of becoming a Rights Respecting School, mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Fordley Primary School is situated in an area which is not greatly culturally diverse; therefore we place a great emphasis on promoting diversity with the children. Assemblies are regularly planned to address this issue either directly or through the inclusion of stories and celebrations from a variety of faiths and cultures. Our Curriculum also reinforces this through: RE, PSHE, reading and writing stories from other cultures in English and learning about other places in world in Geography and History. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. Children visit places of worship that are important to different faiths.

At Fordley Primary School we will actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views.