



Promoting British Values at St Peter's School.

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 by the Prime Minister this year. We are a strong and diverse community at St Peter's School. It is important to us that we identify what makes us part of a group and what makes us stand out as individuals. However it is also important to us to explore what makes us similar. What does it mean to be British? Through our Code of Conduct, behaviour systems and lessons, we investigate what it means to all of us to be British.

Throughout a variety of lessons we encourage learners to:

- ❖ Describe their own identities and groups that they feel they belong to.
- ❖ Recognise different identities and experiences.
- ❖ Appreciate that identity consists of many factors.
- ❖ Recognise that each person's identity is unique and can change.
- ❖ To begin to understand the idea of stereotypes.

The exploration of what it means to be British can be divided into 5 areas: 'Democracy', 'The Rule of Law', 'Individual Liberty', 'Mutual Respect' and 'Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.'

In this British Values Statement we have outlined how we enable the children to explore and discuss these areas of learning.

DEMOCRACY

Democracy is widespread within the school. From Reception to Year 6 children learn how to elect and vote for their councillors. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School and Eco Councils at regular meetings. They are listened to and their responses are acted upon. Pupils have the opportunity to discuss their views on teaching and learning, behaviour and other aspects of school life during pupil interviews with each class teacher twice a year. The school has taken part in visits to the Houses of Parliament and has welcomed local MPs in to talk to the children.

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. Visits from authorities such as the Police; Fire Service; Magistrates etc. are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message. On the other hand, if they follow the rules within the school and they go out of their way to exceed these expectations, their behaviour is also rewarded.

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 our provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advise how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it be through choice of challenge, of how they record, or participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices. The school has a strong anti-bullying culture. This is supported by a range of themed weeks throughout the year including Anti-Bullying week and Safer Internet Day. The key objective of these themed weeks is to ensure that the pupils take responsibility for their behaviour, as well as understanding their rights as individuals. Learning and key messages from these themed weeks are shared with others in the school community.

MUTUAL RESPECT AND TOLERANCE

At St Peter's we are proud to be a diverse school and use opportunities to share our differences in culture.

Parents are invited to share in assemblies and in smaller group sessions which allows children to have a greater respect and understanding towards their own and other cultures and the way of life. We hold regular multicultural coffee mornings which celebrate our diversity.

Our school ethos and behaviour policy has revolved around our Core Values and pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies related to what these mean and how they are shown. The whole school follow a 'Code of conduct' which is very visible around school and regularly referred to. This is reviewed each year with the pupils. Each class reiterates these key message through their own class rules.