

Promoting British Values at Winterbourne Earls C. E. Primary School

January 2019

The Department of Education state there is a 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”**

At Winterbourne Earls C. E. Primary School British Values are embedded and reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy

Democracy is embedded in our school. Pupils are listened to by all adults and are taught to actively listen to each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard. In 2017-2018 the school continued to give a raised profile to the value of debating in embracing Philosophy for Children, embedding work with a P4C leader over the year.

Each year the children decide upon their class rules and their rights associated with these and the children contribute to the drawing up of these agreed rules.

Children have the opportunity to share opinions and ideas through an elected School Council, and are given opportunity to participate in democratic election processes.

In 2017 the children had an opportunity to learn about the U.K's democratic process with the General Election and how this works. KS2 classes held mock elections to practically demonstrate the process.

Children in Y6 apply for roles of responsibility and are able to initiate ideas and organise events associated with this. For example: The charity leaders organise and run charity fundraising events.

In Nov 2017 the school embraced the whole school topic of “The Accidental Prime Minister”, which was a stimulus for a range of work looking at the role of Government, Democracy and the role of law.

We encourage children to take ownership of not only their school, but also of their learning and conduct. This encourages a heightened sense of both personal and social responsibility and is demonstrated on our daily basis by our pupils.

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 Worship. Pupils are taught the value and reason behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves, and the consequences when laws are broken. These values are reinforced in different ways:

- Visits from the authorities such as the Police and the Fire Service
- Visits from Road Officers in Y1 and Y3
- Teaching rules particular to different faiths in R.E.
- During other school subjects, where there is respect and appreciation for different rules – in sports lessons, for example.

The School Council review the school rules with the Headteacher at the beginning of the new school year.

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 the provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it be through choice of learning challenge, of how they record, of participation in our numerous extracurricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices. Children are

rewarded for making good behavioural choices. We use verbal praise, stickers, house points, Golden Time and Celebration Worship to promote the success of individuals and model our expectations in a positive fashion.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect and compassion are at the heart of our values. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. We encourage mutual respect by inviting our OAPs and members of the community to share with us special occasions. The children host and provide entertainment for the local Day Care Centre and visit the centre. The school takes part in the village gardening show and plays a very active role in the Church fete. Many members of our community have come into school to share with us their experiences and their role in the community, for example members of the church and Brownies. We also invite members of the local community to participate in a sharing reading project. Children are encouraged to treat all members of our school community with the same respect. Children are aware of who the school cleaner is so they can appreciate what they do for us, and a “tidy classroom” certificate is awarded by the cleaner every week. All members of the school community treat each other with respect and our staff model impeccably friendship, manners and humour.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Winterbourne Earls is situated in an area which is not greatly culturally diverse, therefore we place a great emphasis on promoting diversity with the children. Our creative curriculum successfully embeds and teaches discretely, RE and PSHE teaching reinforces this. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. We invite members of different faiths to share this with our children

As a Church School we have worked to make links between British Values and our own School Christian values. On the 800th anniversary of the signing of the Magna Carta we were able to make direct comparisons and explore the links

between the values of the Magna Carta and our school, and participated in an art project – to be seen on entry into the hall.

Extremism

At Winterbourne we will actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values including “extremist” views. Whilst the threat from so-called Islamic State has been the focus in the Counter Terrorism and Security Act, the Prevent Duty is clear that extremism of all kinds should be tackled too. Extremism is not a new topic in education, but schools have a relatively new statutory duty to pay “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”.

Read our guide for parents here – it could be good way to prepare yourself when supporting your child in any difficult discussions.

Further information can be found on the school website under Safeguarding.