



Learn to love  Love to learn

Our British Values at Busbridge Junior School

Introduction

The Department for Education states that 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
- mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs”.

The Department for Education defines British Values as follows:

- Respect for democracy and support or participation in the democratic process
- Respect for the basis on which the law is made and applies in England
- Support for equality of opportunity for all
- Support and respect for the liberties of all within the law
- Respect for and tolerance of different faiths and religious and other beliefs

At Busbridge CE (Aide) Junior School we believe that we reflect British values in all that we do. Through the curriculum and a whole range and variety of extra-curricular activities and events, we encourage our children to be creative, unique, hardworking, open-minded and independent individuals, respectful of themselves and of others in our school, our local community, the UK community and the wider world.

We actively prepare children for life in modern Britain in the following ways:

Democracy

The principle of democracy is explored in the curriculum as well as during assemblies and special days. Issues such as the general election are discussed in assemblies as well as in class. All children are encouraged to explore and express their views on a variety of topics through every day school life and the curriculum. Children are encouraged to make choices such as clubs, lunch menu, learning tasks and styles, play equipment and activity. They learn about democracy in topics such as the Ancient Greeks as well as historical champions of democracy such as Nelson Mandela and Rosa Parks.

We have a school council which is elected by the pupils in each class. Anyone wishing to stand for election prepares a presentation/speech laying out their vision, values and ideas for the school if elected. The School Council is consulted on meaningful issues for the school such as homework, school rules, behaviour policy and playtimes (organisation, activities and equipment). Children's views are regularly sought through pupil conferencing and surveys.

House Captains and Vice Captains are also elected in a similar process and organise a range of charity fund-raising and sporting events and competitions.

Rule of Law

School rules and expectations are clear. There are the school Golden Rules as well as charters in each classroom to which children contribute, discuss and sign up to. The discussions help children to understand that rules are there to govern and protect us and that everyone has a responsibility to abide by them. If the rules are broken, the 'Choices Ladder' system for our restorative behaviour management approach is used. This is clearly displayed in all classrooms.

Rules and guidelines such as those for the dining hall, internet safety and anti-bullying help develop an understanding in the children about keeping safe.

In the curriculum (PSHE Year 4) the children learn about British law. In Religious Education they learn about the rules of different religions such as the Ten Commandments (Christian) and the Pillars of Islam.

Mutual Respect and Tolerance of Those with Different Faiths and Beliefs

Busbridge CE (Aided) Junior School is a Christian school for children of all faiths and none.

Equality and community are two of our core values. Children understand that our local, national and global communities are made up of people with a range of beliefs and ways of life and this diversity is something we celebrate.

Children know and understand that they are expected to show respect to everyone, adults and children.

Links with international charities join us with other nations, helping the children to acquire a deep understanding of, and respect for, other cultures and ways of life. These include the Raditzio Trust in Sanyati, Zimbabwe, where Busbridge Juniors have linked up with St. Charles Primary School. This has been an exciting opportunity for the children and staff to learn about and from each other. In the spring term 2016 we raised money to buy real chicks for the villagers of Sanyati by knitting and selling woollen chicks at Busbridge School.

We also support the charity SALCET and Operation Christmas Child.

Children also learn about different faiths and cultures through the curriculum. For example through subjects such as RE, French and Geography children learn appreciation and understanding of other

cultures and faiths. The creative arts offer a wealth of opportunity for introducing and celebrating the art, music and dance of different nationalities such as Aboriginal, African and Islamic art, African drumming. In Literacy stories from other cultures provide informative starting points for further learning. In addition members of different denominations faiths, philosophies or religions are invited to school to share their knowledge and enhance learning within assemblies and in class.

Individual Liberty

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged, and given the freedom to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. These may include lunchtime meal choices to materials for learning and play and knowing their individual learning preferences. There are a range of extra-curricular clubs and opportunities which children are actively encouraged to try, including: residential visits, day trips, clubs, house events, the Talents project, arts festivals, sporting events and competitions. In addition, the buddy scheme, Ambassadors Awards, roles of responsibility such as House captains and school councillors, Anti-bullying Week, e-safety teaching, PSHE lessons, the school values and assemblies based on Christian values are all examples of how children are supported to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence.

Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and to respect those of others.

Vulnerable pupils are supported and protected and stereotypes challenged. A strong anti-bullying culture is embedded in the school and any form of bullying is addressed through a restorative approach.

How do Christian Values and British Values work together in school?

Our school's Christian values are central to our ethos and vision. We aim to live our values in our everyday lives. Our school motto 'Learn to love, Love to learn' and our Value Statements complement the British Values extremely well. Our Christian values are the focus of whole school Monday assemblies and class Circle-Time over a four yearly cycle. The values that we think link most effectively with the British Values are:

- **Love**
- **Hope**
- **Joy**
- **Truthfulness**
- **Trust**
- **Service**
- **Compassion**
- **Peace**
- **Forgiveness**
- **Justice**
- **Wisdom**
- **Courage**

- **Responsibility**
- **Equality**
- **Humility**
- **Generosity**
- **Perseverance**
- **Community**
- **Friendship**

Other assembly themes which support the British Values are:

- **Let your light shine!**
- **New Beginnings**
- **Say 'No!' to Bullying**

Extremism

Something which is clearly not part of any British or European value system is extremism. It is important to remember that whilst the threat from 'so called' Islamic State has been a 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 the government's Prevent Duty guidance and its guidance for schools.