

Fundamental British Values at St Mewan Community Primary School, an Academy

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.'

Citizens of the UK are encouraged to:

- Respect and obey the law
- Respect the rights of others, including their right to their own opinions
- Treat others with fairness
- Look after yourself and your family
- Look after the area in which you live and the environment

At St Mewan Community Primary School, we actively teach and promote Fundamental British Values in the following ways:

Democracy:

Children have many opportunities for their voices to be heard. We have a school council which meets regularly to discuss issues raised within their classes. The council has its own budget and is able to genuinely effect change within the school. The members of the school council are voted in by their class. Children have an annual questionnaire with which they are able to put forward their views about the school.

The Rule of Law:

All staff members have high expectations of the children in our school. The importance of laws and rules are consistently reinforced in the classroom, as well as through school assemblies. Pupils are taught to understand the need for laws – that they are there for individual protection, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Pupils follow a positive behaviour policy and clearly understand the rewards and sanctions that are used. Assemblies and discussions in class focus on recognising right from wrong and visits from the Police and Fire Service begin in Nursery to help to reinforce these messages.

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 safely, for example through our E-safety and PSHE lessons.

Whether it be through choice of learning challenge, of how they record or participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs, pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

Mutual Respect:

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 and this is reinforced on specific focus days such as 'anti bullying' day. All staff consistently model and promote the behaviours and attitudes that are the foundation of positive relationships.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

We actively promote diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures. RE and PSHE lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others. Members of different faiths and religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school.

At St Mewan, we will challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views.