

How we promote British Values at Goosewell School

The Department for Education has reinforced the need 'to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation for 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.'

At Goosewell School, we are dedicated to promoting values which ensure our children develop a strong sense of social and moral responsibility which will prepare them for life in modern Britain. This is how we promote these values.

Democracy

The school values pupil voice and we ask the children about their learning, their concerns and for their ideas about how we can make things better for them. We do this by using pupil questionnaires and through our School Council. At the start of each year, children in Years 1 to 6 vote for their class representatives through an election process. Through their class representatives children have the opportunity to have their voices heard in front of the School Council and to be shared with the Senior Leadership Team. Children are also chosen as representatives for the HMS Heroes pupil voice group for service children.

The Rule of Law

The school has a Positive Behaviour Policy policy. The children understand the school rules and what happens if these rules are broken. At the start of each year classes discuss class rules and agree class rules for their immediate environment. During PSHE lessons and assemblies children learn about the importance of having rules and how these relate to laws. We use a range of PSHE resources, predominantly SEAL, to promote moral, spiritual, social and cultural awareness among our pupils. Our children have a well-developed sense of justice. They understand and are able to discuss why there needs to be consequences for those who break the rules or laws. By being immersed in the ethos of the school, our children learn about their responsibility to be law abiding citizens.

Individual Liberty

Alongside rules and laws, we promote freedom of choice and the right to respectfully express views and beliefs. Through the provision of a safe, supportive environment and empowering education, we provide boundaries for our children to make choices safely; for example:

- Choices about what learning challenge or activity to do.
- Choices around the participation in extra-curricular activities.

- Choices about lunchtime options, and so on

Our behaviour policy is built on the principle that children are responsible for their own actions and choices and that these have consequences. The school sanctions system provides reflection time where pupils are able to think about the impact of their choices. The school's Pastoral staff including the SENCOs, Parent Support Adviser, and indeed any member of staff a child chooses to talk to, listen to anything which may be concerning them. During PSHE, E-Safety lessons and Assemblies pupils are taught how to keep themselves safe whilst they exercise their rights and personal freedoms. Safeguarding is embedded in every aspect of life at the school.

Mutual Respect and Tolerance

Our ethos at Goosewell is that everyone is welcomed. We are proud of our friendly, caring school where we respect and value each other. Everyone joins together to develop and celebrate our learning, talents and achievements.

The school aims promote mutual respect and good manners. Adults actively model respect with one another, and with the children, in how we speak and treat one another. Our school is a diverse, inclusive community and, through our creative curriculum, we promote an awareness of different faiths and we encourage our children to recognise and understand these faiths. Our children naturally show tolerance for others and have a curiosity to find out and understand cultures and faiths that are different from their own. Our children visit places of worship in and around Plymstock and Plymouth. All staff model a tolerant and accepting attitude. We use assemblies to raise and discuss issues of bullying and prejudice and reinforce learning during curriculum time.

At Goosewell, we will actively challenge children, parents or staff who express opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including extremist views.

British Values through the Curriculum

Interwoven within the curriculum in a range of curriculum areas are planned opportunities to teach the values of our society. Some examples are:

- **PSHE:** How we influence democracy is explored through PSHE and assemblies. This includes looking at historical figures who changed the world e.g. William Wilberforce's role towards the abolition of slavery, leaders who fought for the end of child labour during the Victorian times, world leaders such as Nelson Mandela and Gandhi and exploring the effectiveness of different approaches. The Rule of Law and the importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country is consistently reinforced at Goosewell. Children 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. Year 4 children visit the House of Parliament and Downing Street to help further their learning about British democracy and government.

- **Geography:** We ensure that children have a better understanding of what Britain is, learning more about its capital cities and counties, its rivers and mountains, where Britain is in relation to the rest of Europe and other countries in the world.
- **History:** Britain and its influence in modern times are aspects woven into our imaginative learning projects
- **Music:** The study of British composers and their influence worldwide.
- **Art:** The study of how British artist influence others around the world.
- **Religious, Moral & Spiritual Education:** Gaining a greater understanding of religious diversity and practices, this covers key religions represented in the UK. Planning for the subject is directed by the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) – Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education. All children have the opportunity to visit places of worship that are important to different faiths. Goosewell School actively promotes diversity through celebrations of different faiths and cultures.
- **Physical Education:** Promotion of the concept of “fair play”, following and developing rules, inclusion, celebrating and rewarding success, being magnanimous in defeat and participation in activities that promote kinship and affiliation with others.
- **Computing:** Children are also taught about respect and bullying in the online world also, through our learning platform and through regular e-safety lessons.
- **Pupil Leadership:** Promotion of democratic processes, fostering the concept and application of freedom of speech and group action to address needs and concerns. Key to this is the concept of holding others to account, including those in positions of influence and authority.
- **Educational visits:** Our broad range of educational visits and experiences outside of the classroom equip our children with the skills to make a positive contribution to their community as equal citizens, as well as being able to look at British heritage in more depth. Recent visits have included a visit to London, exploring Parliament, The National Gallery, Buckland Abbey, Plymouth City Museum and Tudor Heritage sites in the city, Plymstock Church and historical areas of our immediate environment and the City of Plymouth amongst others.
- **Community Events:** We work closely with charities and organisations such as ‘Children In Need’. We encourage our children to interact with children from other schools, both locally and further afield, through organised activities. Our school participates in a multitude of sporting events with other schools, musical and dance events and curriculum based team work opportunities with children from other schools, primary and secondary.