

Promoting British Values at Oak Green School

The DfE have 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 this year. At Oak Green these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy

- ✓ Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our school council and annual pupil questionnaires.
- ✓ Pupils are involved in democratic processes including the school council and eco council.
- ✓ The election of School Council representatives and House Captains are based solely on pupil votes.
- ✓ School council meetings take place every four weeks, with a member of SLT, to discuss issues raised in class council meetings.
- ✓ Regular assemblies are given on major political events taking place in Great Britain.
- ✓ Magistrates come into the school to educate the children in Year 6 about upholding British Law and the Prosecution Service.
- ✓ Our school behaviour policy involves rewards which the pupils vote on as a class.

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 the school day, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies.
- ✓ Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken.
- ✓ Pupils are always helped to distinguish right from wrong in the classroom, during assemblies and on the playground.
- ✓ Visits from authorities such as the Police, Fire Service and Chiltern Railways help reinforce this message.

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.
- ✓ Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our eSafety and PSHE lessons.
- ✓ Whether it is through choice of challenge, of how they record, lunch options, of participation in extra-curricular clubs, pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

Mutual Respect

- ✓ Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy has revolved around core values such as 'Respect' and pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies related to what this means and how it is shown.
- ✓ Our PSHE curriculum embodies values of mutual respect.
- ✓ Sports activities promote an attitude of equality and fairness.
- ✓ We give public acknowledgement of awards and achievements of the pupils gained from outside school activities.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

- ✓ Oak Green is a diverse school. We actively promote diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures.
- ✓ Assemblies, RE and PSHE lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others.
- ✓ Our RE curriculum provides a broad and balanced education on a range of faiths, religions and cultures.
- ✓ We follow the Bucks Agreed Syllabus for RE.
- ✓ Members of different faiths and religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school.
- ✓ The pupils visit places of worship that are important to different faiths.

We are very proud as a school as we feel our values are a true reflection of British Values.