

British Values

At St Michael in the Hamlet Primary School we believe in a learning culture where everyone is **S**afe, **M**otivated, **I**ncluded, **W**ork as a **T**eam and are **H**appy, whilst participating in all aspects of school life.

All schools are required by law 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.

British Values in Action at SMITH

Democracy – The ability to communicate is the most important area of learning. By valuing each ‘voice’ and by listening to and responding to that voice we demonstrate that we support democracy and liberty.

We promote democracy in our school by ensuring...

Pupils are always listened to by adults and are taught to listen carefully and with concern to each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard.

Pupils are encouraged to take ownership not only of their school, but also of their own learning and progress. This encourages a heightened sense of both personal and social responsibility.

Pupil voice/Ownership:

- House Captain elections
- House Captain responsibilities and partnership and House awards
- E-cadets
- Buddies
- Eco councillors
- Curriculum ambassadors
- Curriculum interviews
- Pupils have the opportunity to vote on matters of concern to them within classes.
- School Council – The election of school council members reflects our British electoral system and demonstrates democracy in action: candidates make speeches; pupils consider characteristics important for an elected representative; pupils vote in secret using ballot boxes etc. The council meets regularly to discuss issues raised by the different classes. The council is able to effect change within the school.

- Pupils are respectful to other's views and opinions. This is fostered through regular timetabled P4C and PSHE sessions.
- Within the curriculum i.e. the History unit on Ancient Greece examines the origins of Democracy
- Assemblies on General and Local Elections

Individual Liberty – We recognise the importance of Freedom of choice and the right to respectfully express views and beliefs. Through the provision of a safe supportive environment, we provide boundaries for our children to make choices safely, encouraging them to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms. For example:

- Choices about learning challenges or activities including extra-curricular activities
- Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely and appropriately for example through E-Safety, P4C enquires and within PSHE sessions
- The PSHE curriculum teaches awareness about making choices.
- The curriculum is created to ensure that the children can make choices about their own learning, for example the choice of equipment, strategies to employ and ways to record their work in Maths lessons through our maths scheme 'Maths No Problem'.

The Rule of Law – We involve pupils in setting class rules; helping them make decisions and choices that are acceptable to the school community and society at large.

Values and reasons behind laws

Pupils are taught the values and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Children are taught to have a knowledge of and respect the school rules, including playground rules and e-safety rules. Other ways these are taught through the curriculum.

- School reward system (Class dojos, golden time)
- Visits from police, lifeguards, fire service - Visits from the fire, ambulance and police service promote knowledge and understanding of the rule of law within Britain
- School Council
- Class reward systems
- Positive reinforcement; praise; stickers; house points; raffle tickets; celebration assembly; certificates

Values are also reinforced:

- During RE, when particular faiths are taught about

- During other school subjects where there is a respect and appreciation for different rules e.g. sports lessons, P4C
- During PSHE sessions
- The RSE and Science curriculum includes specific knowledge concerning smoking, drugs and healthy living and the laws around these areas.
- Year 5 Bikability course includes learning about the importance of the rules of the road.

School Rules - 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.

Behaviour System - Our school behaviour system is aligned to an agreed set of codes and if pupils are given verbal warnings this is always set against the agreed school behaviour code. Pupils are helped to learn to manage their behaviour and take responsibility for their actions. Staff are committed to providing a consistent and predictable environment within the school and beyond. This type of environment enables pupils to understand the connection between actions and consequences and enables pupils to feel safe and secure; this in turn promotes the optimum conditions for learning to take place.

Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and those without a faith

-Inclusion is at the heart of SMITH. We serve an area that is culturally diverse and we are proud to promote and celebrate our different backgrounds and beliefs. Pupils learn that their behaviour choices have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community are encouraged to treat each other with respect and are valued equally, regardless of ability, gender, faith, heritage or race.

Our curriculum promotes respect for different faiths and beliefs:

- By celebrating cultural differences via assemblies, themed weeks and displays.
- Visits to places of worship supports pupils' understanding of cultural differences.
- Members of major faiths and religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school
- Visits to places of worship are planned
- Through the curriculum for example in Art/Music lessons we develop awareness and appreciation of other cultures and religions and celebrate diversity
- Through links, fundraising, friendships with children in other parts of the world
- Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others.
- P4C enquiries, using stimuli related issues such as homelessness, refugees and child labour, are regularly planned to promote an understanding of people and communities beyond their immediate experience. This is reinforced through our RE and SMSC curriculum through the inclusion of stimuli from a variety of faiths and cultures.

- We will actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views
- Local sporting activities such as, football, swimming and athletics help to instil 'fair play' and engender a 'team spirit'.
- We have an enhanced resource base for autistic children 'The Hive' The Hive are involved in many aspects of wider school life.
- Staff, house captains and school councillors act as roles models to the wider school community.
- The work of the eco team promotes respect for our planet and the environment
- Annual Prevent training for staff.
- Different faiths and beliefs are explored and celebrated through assemblies and the RE curriculum.
- Pupils are encouraged to experience British Culture and traditions via:
 - Pantomime trips
 - The celebration of National events, i.e. the 100th anniversary of the start of WW1
 - Our curriculum themes, e.g. local history; geography – rivers, coasts, seaside holiday topics ensure that children have a better understanding of what Britain is and where it is in relation to the rest of the world.

We are an integral part of our local community and are keen to share our resources, time and skills with other schools and organisations. Events and circumstances are planned for pupils to go into the community to meet with a range of people in a variety of situations which include: sports events, community events and shared participation with other schools within and beyond our cluster.

- School learning network (DGT)
- Local colleges
- Family learning sessions within our school community