

# British Values

## *Teaching our children about the British Values of 'mutual respect'*

We readily support the current agenda to promote British Values. All schools we are required to provide for the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of our pupils. As part of this requirement, we are expected to actively promote fundamental British values. The government defines these as:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

### FUNDAMENTAL BRITISH VALUES

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

Our efforts to promote fundamental British values are designed to prepare children for life in modern Britain and we aim to help pupils understand; 'the importance of combatting discrimination', 'how we can influence decision-making by taking part in democratic processes like voting', 'our freedom under British law to choose different faiths and beliefs', 'that the law is there to keep us safe'.

- ✓ Democracy: Democracy is rife in our schools! Pupils have their voices heard through our School Council and Pupil questionnaires. We elect House Captains, our School Council, as well as vote on 'Charity for the Year'.
- ✓ The Rule of Law: The importance of Law, i.e. those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws that govern and protect us, responsibilities this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police; Fire Service; Lifeguards etc. are regular parts of our calendar. Pupils are regularly rewarded for great behaviour with stars, certificates and 'postcards home'.
- ✓ Individual Liberty: Our pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. We educate and provide boundaries for children to make choices safely. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons. Pupils are given the freedom to make choices.
- ✓ Mutual Respect: Our school ethos and behaviour policy revolves around our core values such as 'Consideration' - our 'one word school rule'. Assemblies relate to what this means. Posters around the school promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our behaviour policy.
- ✓ Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs: This is achieved through enhancing pupils understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society. We offer opportunities to experience diversity through visits to places of worship and year group links to other schools in areas which are different to our own. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying are followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE.