

Promoting British Values at Cunningham Hill Infants School

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."*

The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy, and these values have been reiterated by the Prime Minister this year. At CHIS these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy

Democracy is evident within the school. All pupils have an equal voice in electing pupils to speak for them and represent them on the school council. This is also the case when choosing the class May King and Queen for our May Day Celebrations. At Christmas, KS1 pupils choose their role in the school play. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council and Pupil questionnaires.

The Rule of Law

We use the Golden Rules to reinforce the importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country. The Golden Rules are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind the Golden Rules; that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken.

Individual Liberty

The school sets boundaries within which pupils may make choices. These vary according to school activity within the classroom, cloakroom, playground, dining room, library and music area. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advice is given on how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons.

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 School Ethos promotes respects for others and this is reiterated through our classroom and Golden Rules, as well as our positive behaviour management policy. The school has a high-profile 'Language of the Month' display (including talking postcards) that runs throughout the year, linking to languages spoken by our EAL pupils.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

This is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. Age appropriate assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based behaviours have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. Representatives from the schools local faith communities visit the classes or year groups and contribute to our assemblies.