



Promoting British Values at Banks Road Primary 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.”***

Banks Road Primary School actively promotes the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and belief.

Actively promoting these values means challenging opinions or behaviours in school that are contrary to fundamental British values. Attempts to promote systems that undermine fundamental British values would be completely at odds with schools' duty to provide SMSC.

The Teachers' Standards expect teachers to uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school. This includes not undermining fundamental British values.

Through our provision of SMSC, Banks Road Primary School actively aims to:

- enable students to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence;
- enable students to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England;
- encourage students to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely;
- enable students to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England;
- further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling students to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures;
- encourage respect for other people; and
- encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.

The list below describes the understanding and knowledge expected of all Banks Road pupils and staff when promoting fundamental British values.

- an understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process;
- an appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their wellbeing and safety;
- an understanding that there is a separation of power between the executive and the judiciary, and that while some public bodies such as the police and the army can be held to account through Parliament, others such as the courts maintain independence;

- an understanding that the freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law;
- an acceptance that other people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated, and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour; and
- an understanding of the importance of identifying and combating discrimination.

At Banks Road Primary School these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy:

Democracy is rife within the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council and our pupil worry/suggestion box. The election of the Deputy Head and Head Boy and Girl are done democratically with all the pupils in Y6 listening to each candidate before casting their vote. Throughout the school pupils are encouraged to embrace democracy by being given the opportunity to vote on a range of issues, these include class rules and rewards, class and school jobs and responsibilities and the type and variety of games that are available and being delivered during active lunch times.

The Rule of Law:

The importance of Laws, whether they are those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently discussed and reinforced throughout the school. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and laws and that they are to govern and protect us, this also involves an understanding that there are consequences when rules and laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service help to 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, through of provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advise how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons and our school pupil/mentor counselling sessions. Pupils also have the choice to vote for and choose to participate in one or more of our numerous extra-curricular school clubs and activities.

Mutual Respect:

Part of our school ethos and associated policies revolve around Core Values such as ‘Respect’, and ‘Tolerance’. Pupils are encouraged to become actively involved in discussions, whether in the classroom or school assemblies, where these themes are actively explored. Displays around the school promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom rules, as well as our home/school contract and our school 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 and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE.