

British Values

British Values is a government initiative to teach students the values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance.

The Department for Education published guidance on promoting **British Values** in schools as of November 2014 *“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.”*

Why must British Values be taught?

Teaching children British values provides strengthened guidance on improving the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development of pupils to ensure that they leave school prepared for a life in modern Britain. The values underpin what it is to be a British citizen in a modern and diverse Britain and promote moral and cultural understanding to celebrate the diversity of the UK.

What are the main British Values?



Democracy

Pupils should have the right to have their voices heard. This is achieved through a pupil elected School Council, where class representatives raise issues and suggest ideas for improvement. In school, we also provide other opportunities for class votes to help demonstrate democracy.



The Rule of Law

The importance of law and rules should be referred to and reinforced to teach students to distinguish between right and wrong. This will teach children to take responsibility for their own actions. Students are taught the reasons behind rules and laws, how they govern and protect us, and the consequences of what happens when these laws are broken. At the start of each year, each class chooses their own class rules to adhere by.



Individual Liberty

We promote the freedom of choice and the right to respectfully express views and beliefs in a safe environment. We teach children to take responsibility for their behaviour. Children are supported to understand that they have rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely. Pupils are supported to become as independent as possible.



Mutual Respect and Tolerance of Those with Different Faiths or Beliefs

Students are taught to show empathy and understanding of people from different backgrounds. We give pupils regular opportunities to learn about different cultures and beliefs to reinforce messages of tolerance and respect. This allows children to understand and respect different values, opinions and beliefs from their own.