

British Values @ Cherry Trees 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 in 2014, following the introduction of a New National Curriculum.

The staff At Cherry Trees School have worked together to share how these values are reinforced regularly.



British Values

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Cherry Trees School is a diverse school. We actively promote diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures. Religious Education lessons and PSHE lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others. Our multicultural pages on our website illustrate our commitment to exploring our diverse school community. Members of different faiths and religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. The children visit places of worship that are important to different faiths.

EYFS and Sensory phase:

Share in whole school assemblies

Mindful of different cultures and reflect this through learning activities

Visit religious settings

Key Stage 1:

Use Makaton

Celebrate different religious celebrations in classes

Community visits

Key Stage 2:

Celebrate religious festivals of all major religions and work to encourage tolerance here

Work on transition to high school and new rules

Peer buddies within classes

Individual Liberty

At Cherry Trees 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 informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our eSafety and SMSC lessons.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced at Cherry Trees School. Pupils are taught from an early age the rules of the school. These are created with the children, so they have total understanding of this. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service help reinforce this message.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect.

EYFS and Sensory phase:

Taking part in fundraising events for different charities
Workers of the week

Key Stage 1:

Reinforcing good manners at all times
Embedding the school ethos of Respect, kindness and independent living skills.
Visiting shops—queuing, waiting, being served politely
Praising positive actions

Key Stage 2:

Encourage and model communication between staff and pupils, staff and staff, pupils and pupils.
House points to celebrate each others achievements.
Visits from the council representatives
Sports day celebrations of success for all
Community visits
School council ideas shared
Debates in class

Democracy

All the children contribute to the drawing up of the class rules. We have a student council, which meets every month with the Head of School, to discuss issues raised in class council meetings. The council has its own budget and is genuinely able to effect change within the school. Every child on the student council is voted in by their class. Children have an annual questionnaire where they are able to put forward their views about the school. We encourage a use choice boards, Makaton and switches to share their communication.

