

Promoting British Values at Sileby Community 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.”

The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. These values have been reiterated by the Prime Minister in 2014. At Discovery Schools Academy Trust and Sileby Community Primary School, British values are regularly reinforced in the following ways:

Democracy

At Sileby Redlands Community Primary School, we have six values known as the ‘Redlands R’s’ which are: Respect, Resilience, Remembering, Reflectiveness, Responsiveness and Resourcefulness which were chosen by the whole school community. These values are displayed taught and promoted throughout the school and throughout each academic year. They underpin our work as a school and very effectively reinforce all aspects of British values education. Children who display these disciplines, are awarded with a certificate and a special badge which they can wear with pride.

Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council and other committees such as Asha Ambassadors, Reading Ambassadors, Learning Ambassadors and Sports Ambassadors. The election of these representatives is organised through pupil vote from each year group, from Year 2 – 6, for those pupils who wish to stand for office. The Chair and Vice Chair of the School Council are elected from Year 6, following candidates taking the opportunity to campaign throughout the school for one week. Our Chair and Vice-Chair will represent our school’s views at the DSAT Houses of Parliament which meet regularly and where decisions are made for the whole of the Trust. Each candidate has the opportunity to make a speech which gives them a chance to explain why they wish to be elected and how they would like to lead the Council.

Every year pupil views are sought through questionnaire on a wide range of school matters including enjoyment of school, quality of learning, standards of teaching and behaviour and matters related to safety. We use the outcomes of surveys to make adjustments and improvements where necessary.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, including those governing the individual, the class and the whole school, are consistently reinforced. The children understand these laws these as rules. They are taught the reasons why rules exist and the consequences on the individual and our school society as a whole if rules are broken. They also understand that working within agreed rules brings its own rewards.

At the start of each school year class teachers work with children to draw up a Class Charter of age appropriate class rules that all class members sign up to. This charter upholds the Unicef Rights of the Child.

Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind British 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.

Our Positive Behaviour Policy, utilise the principles of **Restorative Justice** in which empowers children to confront those that have wronged them and demands that perpetrators acknowledge the impact of their actions.

Individual Liberty

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make personal choices, knowing that they are in a safe, secure and supportive environment. We educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and empowering them through 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 E-Safety and PSHE lessons.

Whether it be through choice of challenge or working partners, choice of how they record their work, of choice of participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make a wide range of choices.

Mutual respect

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values as seen as part of our 'Redlands 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.

Through class, year group and whole school activities and discussions pupils have a good understanding of what respect means and how it is shown. Our class and school rules and our behaviour policy thoroughly reinforce this ethos. Visitors to our school also reinforce the importance of respect.

Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs is encouraged through our ethos of respect and through enhancing pupils understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society. We provide our pupils with opportunities to experience the cultural diversity of Leicester and Leicestershire through fostering links with other DISCOVERY schools. Within our RE curriculum we study the background and practices of a range of faiths practiced in Leicester and Leicestershire, including the Hindu, Sikh, Muslim and Jewish faiths. We encourage our children to visit places of worship of these faiths and provide opportunities for our children to speak with and listen to faith leaders.

Discussions in RE and PSHE/RSE lessons at an age appropriate level give pupils opportunities to consider the reasons for and consequences of religious and racial intolerance and prejudice-based bullying.

At Sileby Redlands Community Primary School, we will actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views.

Examples of how we promote British Values

- Pupil Parliament

- School Council elections
- Behaviour policy promoting positive behaviour choices
- Rewarding good behaviours, working, manners, care (DoJos)
- Celebrations Assemblies each week with Golden Celebrations Assemblies each half term
- Focus on character development and resilience
- Links with local community including local church and community police officers
- PSHE curriculum and focus days
- RE curriculum and focus days
- Whole school assemblies
- Online safety
- Speaking and listening activities