

Promoting British Values Policy at Botley 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 Botley these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy: Democracy is integral within the school/site. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council and Pupil questionnaires and elections for roles within their classroom. Our school involves rewards which the pupils vote on as a class group eg Golden time activities.

Further examples at Botley are:

- School Council (Elected and Report Classes)
- Class Elections (School Councillors, entrants to competitions eg Botley’s got Talent etc.)
- FGB (Parents and Staff elected)
- Class debates
- Staff meetings (all staff have equal rights)
- Open door policy (parents/carers)
- Opportunities to formulate class working ethos (class rules)
- Offices
- Policies – Inclusion, Access, Equality to all
- Sport (mixed teams) in Inter and Intra class/year groups sports

The Rule of Law: The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. As a Community School, we follow a “Values Based” curriculum and have a “Value of the month” which class, Key Stage or whole School assemblies are based around. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind 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; Fire Service; etc. are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message.

Further examples at Botley are:

- Class rules (positive)
- Policies (Behaviour, Anti-Bullying)
- Reward systems
- Modelling of good behaviour, Peer Mediators, Anti-Bullying Champions
- Involvement with Police Community Support Officer
- School Council – Playtime Rules
- Visits to Junior Citizen, NSPCC
- CEOPS
- Cycling Proficiency
- Staff Contracts
- Code of Conduct
- Debates
- Policies

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. Whether it be through choice of challenge, of how they record, of participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

Further examples at Botley are:

- Pupil Voice (children encouraged to have and express own opinions)
- Vertical grouping on theme days for example
- Encouraging pupils' individual strengths
- Community links
- Independent thought – make choices
- Class jobs/monitors, hall monitors – all cared for environment/resources and happiness of other children
- School Council (liberty) Freedom to Speak
- Non School Uniform Days
- Charity work
- Self (homework, visits/trips, residential visits)
- Choose friendships
- Staff take priority leads on RAP – report to FGB
- Subject Leaders
- Choice to enter competitions/Extravaganzas etc.

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. Posters around the school promote respect for others eg International food days, Living in England Day, Disability Awareness weeks/days and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our Behaviour Policy.

Further examples at Botley are:

- Manners
- Staff speak to children respectfully
- Adult child interaction
- House system, Star Award, Achievement Certificates – recognition of achievement
- Respecting/celebrating ALL achievements in and out of school – competitions eg football, gymnastics, Blue Peter badge winners etc
- Musical Extravaganza's
- Achievement for All
- Disability Awareness Day/week, special sports days for
- International Week, Living in England day, International Food afternoon
- Paired Reading
- Show and Tell/Sharing
- Awareness of activities around the school
- After school clubs run by staff are inclusive
- Assemblies – behaviour/Values
- Respect to visitors

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs: We are a socially and culturally diverse school. We aim to achieve tolerance 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 and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE. The school has a high-profile 'Language of the Term' subject that runs throughout the year, linking to languages spoken by our EAL pupils. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school.

- International Week, International Food Day
- RE policy- other World Faiths

- Celebration/ World Festivals
- House System – mixed ability/age groupings
- Visits to places of worship
- Mixed age playtimes
- Circle time/SEAL (Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning groups)
- PACS (Positive Assertive Communications Scheme)
- Experiencing different members of the community eg grandparents, babies, meeting people with disabilities
- Vertical grouping on themed days
- Tolerance of difference (behaviour/ability) modelling by staff.