

Promoting British Values at Lister Infant 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."

Citizens of the UK are encouraged to:

- Respect and obey the law.
- Respect the rights of others, including their right to their own opinions.
- Treat others with fairness.
- Look after themselves and their family.
- Look after their area in which they live and the environment.

At Lister Infants we believe our school values, our mission statement, our school motto, as well our enriching curriculum and extra-curricular activities, fully supports these fundamental British values. All these values are explored in a range of individual, class, year group or whole school level and are enhanced by whole school, local, national and international agenda and events.

We are committed to promoting these in the following ways:-

- **Democracy:**

Democracy is rife within the school. All children have a voice and are encouraged to debate topics of interest, express their views and make a meaningful contribution to the running of their class and the school on matters that directly involve pupils.

Pupils also have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council and Pupil questionnaires. The School Council meets regularly and takes part in decision making on a range of topics.

The principle of democracy is explored in the curriculum as well as during assemblies and special days. (eg Election Week)

Our school behaviour policy involves rewards which the pupils have contributed to. The school is clear in demonstrating how pupils should contribute, co-operate and consider the needs of others.

- **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 and collective worship.

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.

The Behaviour and Anti-Bullying policies set out a zero tolerance baseline for any form of aggression, abuse or violence, which extends to pupils, staff and parents and carers.

- **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 our 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.

Vulnerable pupils are protected and stereotypes challenged. A strong anti-bullying culture is embedded in the school and any form of bullying is challenged and addressed.

- **Mutual Respect:**

Our school motto- **Respect for all. Learners for life** is the motivation behind our school and what makes our school unique. It is our core belief that entwines and leads the curriculum at our school. Pupils discuss what 'respect' means and how it is shown. Posters around the school promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our 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 and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE. The school is a 'School of Excellence' for French and this is celebrated

throughout the year. Languages spoken by our EAL pupils are celebrated within their class and at whole school level.

Links and visits are promoted with local faith communities and places of worship, as well as members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school.

Our Curriculum includes texts from a range of cultures to further raise children's awareness of different cultures, faiths and beliefs.