

## Promoting British Values at Wonersh and Shamley Green C of E Primary School

The Department for Education (DfE) expect all schools to promote “fundamental British values” (as defined by the current government in the 2011 Prevent Strategy) of **democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.**

As a Church of England school the Christian values of **reverence for a Creator God and all aspects of creation, respect for self and others, thankfulness, humility, endurance, courage, truthfulness, generosity, wisdom, perseverance, responsibility, compassion, service, trust, peace, forgiveness, friendship, justice, hope, creativity and koinonia (the fellowship and communion of Christian believers),** are interwoven through the everyday learning and life of the staff and children at our school. These values are promoted as we engage with the wider school community; our parents, friends, local parishioners and local, national and international partner schools.

We believe that we are all **global citizens** and through our assemblies, PSHEC lessons and international links we promote an understanding of our responsibilities as local, national and global citizens.

### **Democracy**

We have an active School Council which meets regularly to discuss issues affecting our school. Every child on the school council is voted in by their class and the councillors take forward the views of their class to the meeting. Their ideas are then presented to the Headteacher and School Business Manager and projects promoted in agreement with all parties and in some cases this will be dependent on funding availability.

The School Council members are responsible for showing visitors around school and writing to outside parties on behalf of the children in our school. E.g. Send My Friend to School Campaign.

Children at our school are listened to and are taught to listen carefully to others. Children are taught to respect the right of individuals to have their voices and opinions heard. They are taught to discuss issues in a balanced and calm way. The principle of democracy is further explored through our curriculum, through themes in assembly such as civil rights and through the History, Geography and English curriculum.

### **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 our school. From an early age children are taught the rules of the school and have a say in agreeing their own class code of conduct. Our behaviour policy supports this as does our Celebration Assembly when children are praised for good or improved behaviour, being a good friend and being kind as well as for academic success. The children learn that many of the laws of our country are based on the moral code of the New Testament.

We invite members of the public in to school to share about their jobs to enhance the children’s understanding e.g. police, fire and ambulance service, our local MP and local councillors and local clergy. Children learn that governments have a responsibility to protect children’s rights through the laws that are made

## **Individual Liberty**

Pupils are actively encouraged to make independent choices knowing that they are in a safe, secure and supportive environment. Our children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights, responsibilities and personal freedoms and receive advice about how to exercise these safely, for example through our exploration of E- Safety in computing.

Our annual support of the British Legion Poppy Appeal, and last year's 'Lest We Forget' campaign, shares the sacrifices that have been made in the past for our liberty as a nation. Junior children took part in an opera "The Freedom Game" about the Magna Carta.

## **Mutual Respect**

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values and is modelled by all members of our community. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. Mutual respect is embraced throughout the curriculum from the concept of 'fair play' in PE to the way our older children lead playground activities for younger children. All members of the school community treat each other with respect. Children learn about human rights and responsibilities. Using UNICEF materials about the rights of the child we explore children's rights. Every year we take part in the "Send my Friend to School" campaign.

Tolerance and respect for different faiths and cultures is achieved through equipping students with the ability to understand their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience and celebrate such diversity within the school community.

## **Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs**

WSG Primary is situated in an affluent middle class area that is not culturally diverse. The school recognises its role in preparing children for life in modern Britain. We actively promote celebrations of different faiths and cultures. Through RE and PSHEC lessons we reinforce messages of tolerance and respect. Members of different faiths and religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning. The children visit places of worship that are important to different faiths. We often host visitors from other countries and of other religions. For example we have recently had visits from Nepalese, Ghanaian, Swiss and Chinese teachers so that the children have an understanding that takes them beyond the confines of their local villages.

## **The Curriculum.**

Our international links are embedded throughout our creative curriculum. Teachers regularly review the curriculum to ensure that it promotes our values and our perspective of us all as global citizens. It also ensures that pupils are taught about key events and figures in British and world history. Events during the year celebrate culturally diverse occasions and memorable events taking place in the country and around the world.

## **Equal Opportunities for all**

Equal opportunities are enshrined in all of our policies and practices. Should you feel that the school is not meeting these requirements, you should contact the school office and request the opportunity to express your concerns with the Headteacher. Likewise, if you feel that anyone working at the school is undermining these values you should report this to the Headteacher.