

Promoting British Values at Penns 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, and these values have been reiterated this year (2014). At Penns Primary School these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy

Each year the children decide upon their class rules and the rights associated with these. All the children contribute to the drawing up of the rules.

We have a School Council which meets regularly to discuss issues raised from each class which hold their own class council meetings. The Council is genuinely able to effect change within the school.

House Captains and Vice Captains are elected each year. Year 6 pupils stand for election. They prepare their own speeches and all pupils vote to decide who will lead their own house.

There are planned opportunities for children to learn about democracy for instance Year 6 pupils study Parliament and a have visit from our local MP and visit the Houses of Parliament.

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 Penns Primary School. Pupils are taught from an early age the rules of the school. There are our class rules, playground rules and e-safety procedures. 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.

Individual Liberty

At Penns Primary 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 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 e-safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it be through choice of:

challenge,

how they record work,

how to extend and develop their own lines of topic enquiry,

participation in numerous extra-curricular clubs and lunchtime activities. Pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

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. Anti Bullying week is celebrated each year.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths, Beliefs and no beliefs

Penns Primary School is a diverse community. 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. 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.

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