

Promoting British Values at South Cave Primary School

As directed by the Department for Education, schools now have a duty to actively 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 Prevent Strategy (2011) and reiterated their importance in November 2014.

The South Hunsley Partnership of schools has developed a shared vision for the way that British Values are promoted across our partnership:

South Hunsley Partnership of Schools

British Values Statement:

In our partnership, we aim to encourage children to understand the fundamental British Values of **democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of people of all faiths, races and cultures**. We help children to understand that while different people may hold different views about what is 'right' and 'wrong', all people living in England are subject to its laws.

At South Cave School, these values are taught explicitly through Personal, Social, health and Emotional (PSHE) and Religious Education (RE). The school also takes opportunities to actively promote British Values through daily collective worship; making relevant connections with our school Christian values of respect, trust, compassion, endurance and thankfulness.

At South Cave School, some of the ways in which British Values are explored, are as follows:

Democracy

We have a student council which meets every week with an Assistant Headteacher to discuss issues raised through individual class suggestion boxes. Every child on the student council is voted in by their peers. This helps the children to understand how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process.

The school council is genuinely able to effect change within the school from decisions regarding the school dinner menu to the acquisition of new playground equipment. Their input is also valued when recruiting new members of staff to the school.

Through an annual questionnaire, all children are able to put forward their views about the school. Each pupil is also given a voice when systems such as the rewards and sanctions procedures are reviewed.

Each year, the pupils decide upon their class charter and the rights associated with these. Children in each class contribute to the drawing up of the charter.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced at South Cave School.

From an early age, pupils are taught the rules of the school. Our behaviour system is aligned to an agreed set of rules to which the children are expected to adhere. Pupils are taught the value and reasoning behind rules and laws, on all levels. It is highlighted that rules and laws govern and protect us, that we have a responsibility to follow them and that there are consequences when rules and laws are broken.

To encourage and promote good behaviour and a disposition for learning through the correct attitude, our behaviour system sanctions and rewards. We are committed to praising children's efforts. We endeavour to praise the children informally, individually, during group work, in front of the whole class and the whole school. Praise assemblies are held every two weeks during which children are rewarded not only for their achievement in curriculum areas, but also for their behaviour and attitude as demonstrated through the school Christian values of: respect, trust, compassion, endurance and thankfulness. Rewards are given in the form of verbal praise, house points, certificates and significant termly rewards such as school discos and cinema nights.

Individual Liberty

Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices at South Cave School, knowing that the ethos of the school provides a safe and supportive learning environment. As a school, we provide boundaries for our children to make choices safely, through a planned curriculum and a physically safe space.

All children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our e-Safety and PSHE lessons.

Mutual Respect

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy is based around the core Christian values of trust and respect. These (and our other values of compassion, endurance and thankfulness), determine how we live as a school community. Collective worship is based on our school Christian values which are central to how we expect everyone to conduct themselves at school and within the wider school community.

Children learn that their behaviours have a powerful effect on their own rights and those of others. One way in which children are able to demonstrate mutual respect is through their sportsmanship. Whether in PE lessons or in competitions, children are reminded of the importance of respecting the other players at all times.

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 opportunities to experience the diversity of our local community which is for the most part white British.

RE and PSHE lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others. Supporting the Real Aid shoebox appeal at Christmas time and sponsoring a child through Action Aid provide opportunities to learn about life and culture in other countries.

