

Promoting British Values

At Hamilton, we recognise the multicultural, multifaith nature of the United Kingdom and take our responsibility to promote community cohesion, generate a respect for difference and protect and respect individual rights seriously. Our school values of honesty, integrity, courage, respect, responsibility, fairness, wisdom and hope reiterate this and play an important role in upholding British Values within our school community.

At our school these values are reinforced in the following ways:

Democracy:

Our School Council plays a strong role in our school. They are elected by their class peers and meet regularly with the headteacher and another member of staff to contribute to decisions affecting pupils. Pupil questionnaires are also conducted throughout the year. We know that the formation of the school council and the active participation of our pupils is the beginning of a more sophisticated understanding of democracy.

The Rule of Law:

Rules and laws will be encountered by our pupils throughout their lives and we want them to understand that they are set for good reasons and must be adhered to whether they govern their class, school, local area or country. An understanding of the importance of rules is consistently reinforced through school assemblies and our curriculum. Our pupils are involved in the creation of class and school rules and values to help them understand the reasons behind them and the consequences if they are broken. We welcome visits from members of the wider community including police, the fire brigade and other groups and agencies as we believe that clear explanations and real life stories engage our children and emphasise the importance of the Rule of Law.

Individual Liberty:

We have created a positive culture in our school, recognising that by investing time we can provide a safe environment where choices are encouraged. A wide range of after school clubs is offered and children are free to choose which ones they attend, based on their interests. We use E-safety, PSHE and Circle time sessions to educate children about their personal freedoms as well as encouraging them to recognise how to exercise these freedoms safely. At Hamilton we believe that valuing choice and freedom in daily school life will foster a value for individual liberty that will remain with the children as they move through their lives.

Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

We offer a culturally rich and diverse curriculum in which all major religions are studied and respected. Our daily assemblies, regular class circle time sessions and PSHE lessons support discussions about personal health and safety. Our RE curriculum teaches about the main faiths and focuses on learning about, and from, religion. We promote the tolerance of the beliefs of others by talking about how our own beliefs may be similar to those of different faiths. Through our curriculum and school routines, we work as a community to demonstrate tolerance, encouraging children to accept differing viewpoints and preparing them for life in a multifaith, multicultural community.