

Promoting British Values at Cornholme 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 in 2014. Promoting 'British values' and teaching children to respect each other's differences is a very important part of life. At Cornholme School these values are reinforced regularly and are evidenced in the following ways:

At Cornholme School, we already promote the core aspects of British values through the SMSC work that is integrated throughout every year group. We recognise that such development is most successful when those values and attitudes are promoted by all the staff and provide a model of behaviour for pupils. Through the ethos of the school and the systems in place British values is reinforced in the following ways:

Democracy

At Cornholme School all children have a pupil voice and a say in their education. Each year the children decide upon their class charter and the rights associated with these. All the children contribute to the drawing up of the charter

We have a student council which meets regularly to discuss issues raised in class. The school council, which is elected in a democratic way, is the pupils' opportunity to raise issues, decide how money is spent, organise events and activities for the school and put forward their suggestions for curriculum ideas. Through all areas of the curriculum, children are taught the importance of listening to others and their viewpoint, allowing the pupils to gain a full understanding of democracy.

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 Cornholme School. Pupils are taught from an early age the rules and values of the school. We involve pupils in all areas of rulemaking, rewards and sanctions within the school. The token treat system, which rewards children who consistently try their best to behave, encourages pupils to try their hardest. Equally, the consistency shown in dealing with negative behaviour ensures that all children learn the importance of laws, not just within school but within the community and country.

Individual liberty

Making the right choices and being responsible for those are important principles at Cornholme School, which are reinforced in every year group. All children receive equal opportunities and are encouraged to be independent in making the choice that is right for them. At Cornholme School, pupils are actively encouraged to make informed choices, knowing that they are in a safe and a supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make informed choices, through providing a safe environment and an empowering education. This also incorporates understanding that it is ok to say 'no' and how to remain safe through PSHE and E-safety sessions. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our eSafety and PSHE lessons.

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. The first of our rules is that I will be respectful and polite.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Cornholme School is a very diverse school. 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.

British History

Through the study of British history pupils at our school pupils are taught to understand the different periods in our history in a chronological order. This takes place in both KS1 and KS2 with cross curricular topic work linked to the study of specific periods in British history which underpins notions of our shared heritage, values and traditions. In addition the school commemorates historic events such as Armistice Day.

Commitment to charity work

The school encourages its pupils to participate in and support good causes and charities. This reinforces that there are large numbers of people both at home and overseas who are much less fortunate than ourselves and they deserve our support. The school and its pupils and staff support a range of charities each year to underline and reinforce this value in the school.

All staff at Cornholme work closely with parents, carers and other professionals to ensure that the pupils are happy, safe and reach their full potential to live fulfilled lives in their community.