

Ridgeway Infant School
British Values Policy Statement

Democracy

Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Rule of Law

Individual Liberty

Mutual Respect

At Ridgeway Infant School, 'British Values' are promoted through Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural education. This is an integral part of our wider school curriculum and permeates through each curricular area, supporting the development of the whole child. We recognise that our school staff promote these values consistently, enabling our children to learn from good role models.

We value our rich and diverse community and believe that our harmonious atmosphere is one of our greatest strengths as a school. All children are taught from the outset how important it is that we respect one another in all aspects of school and home life and indeed, in the wider world. We provide opportunities for our children to experience democracy and the rule of law in age appropriate ways. Our children are introduced to the concept of individual liberty by providing a safe environment in which they can begin to make choices for themselves in a way that will prepare them for life in modern Britain.

Democracy

Children experience democracy through a range of events in school. Examples of these are school council 'elections', classes voting for a shared reward, and within lessons. We provide opportunities for children to express their own and others views through pupil questionnaires and interviews, within the Eco Team and School Council. Staff support children to develop peaceful problem solving strategies. Children are taught about the role of school Governors, and included in this is how parent/carer governors are chosen.

Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs

At Ridgeway, children are encouraged to explore and share aspects of their own culture and that of others from Reception through to Year 2. The RE curriculum highlights similarities between the beliefs of different faiths and all pupils have the opportunity to visit a range of places of worship in the local community. Assemblies and activities throughout the year include learning about, and celebrating, a range of cultural events and festivals.

Rule of Law

Children at Ridgeway are actively involved in the creation of their class rules, ensuring they understand the reason for these rules, that they govern and protect us. Children have a secure understanding of our school rules, which are visible in every classroom. A clearly structured behaviour policy is in place which all stakeholders are expected to uphold. Children are aware of sanctions that are in place and a two-tier reporting system is in place where rules are broken and support given where necessary. We have strong links with the local Police and Fire Service, and visitors from both are welcomed regularly into school.

Individual Liberty

At Ridgeway, our value system is based on developing self-esteem, self-knowledge and self-confidence. These values are highlighted in weekly assemblies and are rewarded. Children are encouraged to make choices safely within a secure and supportive environment. For example, children may choose to participate in a range of extra-curricular clubs and are able to choose from a range of activities during the lunchtime period. Within lessons, children are able to make a range of choices, such as how they record, the level of challenge or who they work alongside. Children are encouraged to volunteer for positions of additional responsibility within school, such as playground leaders, register monitors or lunchtime helpers. There is a strong anti-bullying culture throughout the school. Children are taught the basics of understanding the consequences of choices, for example through the PSHE curriculum or aspects of the teaching of E-Safety.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is promoted at all times in all aspects of school life at Ridgeway. Within the PSHE curriculum, 'R-Time' is regularly taught in all year groups, emphasising cooperative working and fundamental ways to show respect, such as using names when greeting people. Our school behaviour policy and school rules reinforce the importance of respectful behaviour to all. Our school values promote communication and collaboration and emphasises the importance of mutual respect in demonstrating these values well. The use of 'Buddy' schemes within and across classes and year groups reinforces this message and allows children to learn from each other. Links within Derby Pride Trust facilitates this further with visits from older children from other schools in the trust. Sports activities endorse an attitude of fairness and equality within school and the local area and promote mutual respect of people in our wider community.

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