

Promoting British Values

At Westfield we 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, and these values have been reiterated this year (2014). At Westfield these values are reinforced regularly in the following ways:

Democracy

Each year the children decide upon their class code of conduct and the rights associated with these. All children contribute to the code of conduct.

Children have many opportunities to be heard. We have a School Council which meets regularly to discuss class and whole school issues. The Council genuinely effects change in school and each term classes from year two upwards vote for two representatives per class to serve on the Council for a term. On an annual basis members of School Council have an opportunity to attend a GB meeting and ask questions. Children have an annual questionnaire with which they are able to put forward their views about the school.

The Rule of Law

The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. Pupils are taught the value and reason behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from the Police and Fire Service help to reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty

Within 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 people to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and 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 a learning challenge, of how they record, of participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is evident in school between all adults and children. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Westfield is situated in an area of some cultural diversity and we place a great emphasis on promoting that diversity with the children. Assemblies are regularly planned to address this issue either directly or through the inclusion of stories and celebrations from a variety of faiths and cultures. Our RE and PSHE teaching reinforce this. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. Children visit places of worship that are important to different faiths.

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