



PROMOTING BRITISH VALUES

The definition of British Values was set out by the government in the 2011 'Prevent' Strategy and added to Ofsted inspection guidance in July 2014 " to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote fundamental British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs".

At Belswains Primary School these values are regularly promoted through high quality teaching and whole school or class assemblies. The spiritual, moral, social and cultural education which permeates through the schools' curriculum also promotes 'British Values'. This provision allows pupils to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.

These values are promoted in school in the following way :

DEMOCRACY :

The ability to communicate is the most important area of learning. We ensure that pupils are given a 'voice' to communicate. The method of using this 'voice' could be using words, objects, photographs, pictures, symbols or body language. By valuing each 'voice' and by listening and responding to that 'voice', we demonstrate that we support democracy and liberty.

Pupils learn about democracy in society today, and the implications for individuals when it is not present. Weekly assemblies look at current news both locally and globally. The pupils practice democracy within school by electing members of the School Council and House Captains. Those elected children know that they represent many voices.

THE RULE OF LAW :

We involve pupils in setting codes of behaviour; helping pupils to make decisions and choices that are acceptable to the school community and society at large.

Pupils are helped to learn to manage their behaviour and take responsibility for their actions. Staff are committed to providing a consistent and predictable environment within the school and beyond. Pupils are encouraged to follow the school rules and class rules, they are taught that rules are needed to keep them safe, and that there are consequences if rules are broken.

INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY:

Pupils at Belswains Primary School are encouraged to become good and valued citizens. We do this by supporting each pupil to become as independent as possible, whilst also feeling safe and supported. We encourage pupils to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms, and how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-safety and PSHE & Citizenship lessons. There is also a focus on their responsibilities to ensure that they are also respectful of the rights of others. Pupils are also taught to understand the importance of listening to each other and the right to disagree when discussing their viewpoints.

MUTUAL RESPECT:

This is a core value at Belswains – ‘We recognise and respect differences in race, religion, gender, ability, physical appearance or disability. We treat everybody the same, regardless of these differences. We have respect for ourselves and each other. We respect the property of others and our environment.’

Belswains promotes the inclusion of each pupil, and to know their rights and responsibilities. The importance of listening to each other is taught – all children have learning partners to discuss topics and aid their learning. To encourage mutual respect in the wider community events and circumstances are planned to enable pupils to meet a range of people in a variety of situations which include: sport events, community events and shared participation with other schools.

TOLERANCE:

At Belswains we serve a multi-faith community where each person is respected and valued equally without regard to ability, gender, faith, heritage or race.

Cultural appreciation and development forms part of our curriculum. We place great emphasis on providing encounters and participation in events, visits from and visits to different religious places and celebrations to broaden all pupils’ experiences and awareness of others.

Our assemblies help all pupils to find out about themselves and others linking their lives to the communities in which they belong. The themes cover areas such as: friendships, helping others, celebrations from a range of faiths and cultures, and world events.

Pupils are encouraged to study and experience British Culture and heritage through our curriculum themes. Each Year group having at least one topic to achieve this, for example :

Year 6 – Britain Since 1948

Year 5 – Around the British Isles

Year 4 – Tudors , and also Anglo Saxons

Year 3 – Henry V111

Year 2 – Explorers

Year 1 – Kings & Queens

Pupils are also encouraged to take part in local sporting activities which help to instil ‘ fair play’ and engender a ‘team spirit’.

The staff work closely with parents , carers and other professionals to ensure that the pupils at Belswains Primary School are happy, well cared for and enabled to learn the skills they need to live a fulfilling life as part of their community.