

Roundwood Primary School

Teaching British Values

Promoting British Values

At Roundwood, we ensure through our school vision, ethos, endeavours, curriculum and teaching that we promote British Values as directed under the Ofsted guidance, September 2014:

'ensure that the school promote tolerance of and respect for people of all faiths (or those of no faith), cultures and lifestyles; and support and help, through their words, actions and influence within the school and more widely in the community, to prepare children and young people positively for life in modern Britain'.

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'.

At Roundwood these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy:

Democracy is alive and well within the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School and Eco Councils. These councillors are elected through a democratic voting process held at the start of the academic year. We also have friendship councillors, Red Caps and our Year 6's acting as mentors/buddies to our Reception pupils thus ensuring we promote a secure and cohesive community. All pupils are encouraged to be responsible for one another and to respect the values which the school actively promotes.

- The right to respect from others
- The right to learn and teach
- The right to feel safe

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 reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police; Fire Service; etc. are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message. We encourage the children to follow the school endeavours by:

- Teaching them how to solve their own problems through discussion so that they learn how to think things through and talk together until they agree.
- Supporting them to develop the ability to take responsibility for their own actions and to see the links between their own behaviour and the consequences of their actions.
- Speaking assertively to disruptive pupils, using language that is decisive, firm and clear. We aim to approach discipline in a positive, constructive and consistent way.
- Pupils are encouraged to offer their points of view and express their feelings during Personal and Social Education, through peer mediation and/or via the School Council.

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 pupils 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 choose how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons. Pupils are given the freedom to make choices, whether it be through choice of challenge in lessons, of how they record their learning – in and out of school, or participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities,

Mutual Respect:

At Roundwood, we are proud of the children. Our oldest children become first-rate role models to all. They set very good examples. They willingly act as good ambassadors in showing adults and new pupils around the school, carrying out office duties, acting as 'Red Caps' on the infant playground, acting as BFG's, football referees on the junior playground and Reading Mentors to the younger children.

We aim to encourage the children to become self-disciplined and to take responsibility for their own learning and behaviour. We do this by engendering an atmosphere where a child is comfortable with his/her abilities and takes pride in his or her achievements. We commend good behaviour and work with positive praise, 'stickers', 'smiley faces', house points and displays around the school. We celebrate achievements in class, in assemblies and by 'Top Banana Awards'.

Beyond fostering a sense of 'self worth' we also give the children the opportunity to recognise they are part of a community so they regularly:

- Share in the achievements of others
- Learn to support and encourage others within school
- Take and receive responsibility
- Are encouraged to be tolerant, especially with those who are younger.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

This is achieved through enhancing pupils understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE. The school encourages an awareness of other cultures and languages through a 'Language of the Month' highlighting, in particular, those languages spoken by our EAL pupils. Our assemblies cover different religious festivals and faiths. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. Celebratory assemblies and appreciation through music are key elements to the promotion of others. Pupils throughout the school are given many opportunities to extend their appreciation of differing cultures and faiths both in and beyond their own community.

S Webb