

Promoting British Values at Langford Village

Statement produced September 2015

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 by the Prime Minister this year. At Langford Village School, these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy:

Democracy is embedded within the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council and Pupil questionnaires. Children elected by their peers to be on the School Council represent the views of their classmates on various issues. The children are frequently encouraged to work as teams to make decisions and to hear and respect the views of all parties. Where a decision cannot be made, voting is encouraged. The children also get the opportunity to vote on certain activities and treats.

The Rule of Law:

The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school or 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 are regular parts of our calendar and help 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 pupils to make choices safely, through our provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advise how to exercise these safely, for example through our e-Safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it is through choice of challenge, choice of school lunch, of how they record, of participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

Mutual Respect:

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy has revolved around Core Values such as ‘Respect’, and pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies related to what this means and how it is shown. The school promotes respect for others and this is reiterated in our classroom environments, as well as our behaviour policy. The school rules include: Be kind, Be safe and Be responsible and it is stressed that children must also respect the rights of others to be treated kindly, to be safe and to be treated with respect.

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. School resources are purchased with diversity in mind. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE. Such issues are also embedded in the curriculum. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school.