

Our promotion of British Values in school

Promoting British values at Bessacarr Primary School

At Bessacarr Primary School we aim for our children to become valuable and fully rounded members of society who treat others with respect and tolerance, regardless of background, religion, ethnicity, faith or sexuality.

We promote the basic British values of:

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect
- tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

We ensure that the fundamental British Values are introduced, discussed and lived out through the ethos and work of the school.

Democracy

Pupil voice is significant in regards to life in our school. Our pupil elected school council plays a strong role in school. They are elected by their class peers and are involved in making the school a better place to learn. They play an active role in interviewing potential staff and organise fund raising charity events to raise money for local and worldwide charities. We know that the formation of the school council and the active participation of our pupils will sow the seeds for a more sophisticated understanding of democracy in the future.

The Rule of Law

Our pupils will encounter rules and laws throughout their entire lives. We want our pupils to understand that whether these laws govern the class, the school, the neighbourhood or the country, they are set for good reasons and must be adhered to.

This understanding of the importance of rules will be consistently reinforced through assemblies and our curriculum. The involvement of our pupils in the creation of the school rules helps them to understand the reasons behind the rules and the consequences if they are broken. We allow opportunity to debate and discuss the reasons for laws so that children can recognise the importance of these for their own protection.

Individual Liberty

We invest a great deal of time in creating a positive culture in our school, so that children are in a safe environment where choices and freedoms are encouraged. In lessons, learning tasks are often left for the child to decide upon. We encourage children to choose the task that will challenge them, giving them more freedom to determine their own learning. We offer a range of clubs which pupils have the freedom to choose from, based on their interests. Throughout the curriculum, we educate children on their rights and personal freedoms as well as supporting them in recognising how to exercise these freedoms safely. At Bessacarr Primary we believe that valuing choice and freedom in daily school life will foster a value for individual liberty as the children embark upon their adult lives.

Mutual respect

Mutual respect is at the core of our school life. Students learn to treat each other and staff with great respect. We are an inclusive school where everyone is valued and has a contribution to make to the school. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

All different faiths and beliefs are explored and celebrated through assemblies, RE sessions and visits to a variety of religious places of worship. The children are taught that people have different faiths and beliefs and that these should be accepted. Through our curriculum and the routines of our daily school life, we strive to demonstrate tolerance and help children to become knowledgeable and understanding citizens who can build a better Britain for the future.