

**Throughout the school, British Values are promoted in a wide variety of ways. Below are just some aspects of school life that enable children to get a sense of these fundamentals as they progress through their time at school.**

**Democracy:**

We have a School Council where two Class Council representatives from each class are elected to participate in Council meetings. These meetings provide a way for children's voices to be heard and for their opinions to influence important decisions made in the school. Class council representatives, in turn, hold Class Council meetings where their peers can discuss key elements of school life including those issues they wish to be raised in School Council meetings.

There are also numerous opportunities that are provided for children to exercise a vote whether it is choosing school team names or making more simple day-to-day choices.

Democracy is embedded within our school curriculum, for example, in the learning about the Magna Carta and British political History.

We actively teach children about their rights and responsibilities as British Citizens; both on a national level and also a global level. This is underpinned by school assemblies that often look at issues surrounding human rights across the globe.

We share examples of stories linked to democracy, discussing the challenges faced around the world and in history; for example, looking at

'equality' linked to the suffragettes and women's rights around the world today.

### **Mutual Respect**

Children are taught to respect others regardless of their individual differences. Bullying of any kind is not tolerated and is our approach to dealing with bullying incidents is enshrined in our Anti-Bullying policy.

Children are taught about how to develop respectful relationships in a wide variety of ways including through our PSHE and RE curriculum.

We hold assemblies that celebrate difference and other cultures. These help to build understanding of different people and their belief systems that may hold both similarities and differences to our own.

Equality is one of our values and is promoted in every aspect of school. We actively promote gender equality and teach the children about racial equality. In assemblies, we look at key figures that have been part of the struggle to establish equality for all and examine where in our own country, as well as others, where inequality might still exist.

We have participated and will continue to join in cluster project days that include children and staff from the cluster schools working together to achieve a common goal. The unique make-up of our cluster, including all ages and special schools, means that all stakeholders have developed a respect for the capabilities of all members of the group and in turn, this can alter their views on society as a whole.

Our link with schools in South Africa is a mutually beneficial international alliance that enables both staff and pupils from each school to learn about each other's practises, cultures and values. This has included a staff exchange.

Some pupils carry out the role of 'play leader' at in a morning and at lunchtimes where they help to organise activities with other pupils in order to enable them to have enjoyable playtimes. This fosters a mutual respect between all parties across a range of ages.

The charity work that Meadowside children participate in is extremely valuable in helping them to develop a respect for others whilst also supporting the development of their role as active citizens in the wider society. We hold regular fundraising events for charities such as Red Nose Day and Children in Need.

### **Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs**

During PSHE lessons, children learn to accept and embrace difference and to understand how individuals feel by exploring emotional literacy. This work crosses all potential barriers of faith and religion. Supporting this, children's RE lessons enable them to develop a growing understanding of different cultures and beliefs. The more children learn about religions, the more likely they are to understand different people's motivations and feelings, thereby enabling them to be more tolerant of those cultures and beliefs that differ from their own.

At the heart of our work, Meadowside values form the foundation for learning tolerance and as such, the values are spoken about and promoted and as a result strengthen the core British values in our society.

Our Equalities Policy ensures that people of all religious beliefs, genders, ethnicities, abilities or any other differences are offered the same opportunities to thrive at our school. Equality is one of our values and something we seek to uphold in all of our work.

International projects such as learning about Christmas traditions around the world help to develop children's experiences and understanding of other countries and their traditions, cultures and beliefs. Other learning that supports this is through the teaching of Spanish by a native Spanish speaker and sharing of other languages; for example, International Languages Day.

In assemblies, religious tolerance is strengthened through the celebration of different religious festivals such as Holi, Chinese New Year, Eid and Christian celebrations. Sometimes, stories are shared or personal experiences of either the staff or children spoken about in order to develop a greater depth of understanding of religious identities.

### **Rule of Law**

Our School Rules are shared throughout the school, underpinned by our behaviour policy, which strives for positivity and consistency. We aim to ensure that children understand how to behave in a positive way that

helps to create a good learning environment. Our reward system of team points reinforces this.

Children and parents sign home/school and Esafety agreements upon entering Meadowside that sets out the expectations for pupils' learning and behaviour. These commitments mirror the expectations set by society and function as a set of rules to enable positive participation in school life.

The local PCSO regularly visits school to talk to the children, establishing good behaviour expectations for outside of school and also talking to the pupils about how to stay safe. This helps the children to see that there are police services to help uphold the law and to protect them.

Children are taught about laws in connection to the Computing curriculum; for example, children learn about copy write and plagiarism.

### **Individual Liberty**

Children are taught about rights and responsibilities in our PSHE curriculum and also as part of our assembly programme. Meadowside school values form the basis of our assembly programme and focus on human rights and how they can be promoted and respected.

Children's achievements are celebrated in assemblies to instil in them a sense of worth and create ambitious pupils who believe in themselves and their self-worth.

Children are taught about making 'good' choices and have a full understanding that they are the ones that make choices about how they act, whether those choices are well made or not.

In Year 6 children take on jobs that help to make the school function well. They apply for the roles and so freely choose the way they will contribute to our community.

Individual liberty has School Values as its foundations. They help the children and staff to understand what the key features of a healthy positive environment are and enable individual freedoms to be maintained and respected. For example, the work around respecting different family models is essential to ensure that all individuals can come to school free from prejudice.