



Promoting British Values at Bowmansgreen Primary School

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 Bowmansgreen Primary School values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

- **Democracy**

Democracy is rife within the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through school council, Pupil questionnaires, a worry box and pupil voice. The elections of school Councillors and House Captains are based solely on pupil votes with the chair and secretary of the council also being elected positions. At the end of the academic year Yr6 pupils vote for their “Pupils’ Pupil of the Yea”. In addition we have an Equalities group which focus on ensuring equal opportunities for all groups of children in all we do; for example opportunities in After School Clubs etc.

- **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 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 the laws are broken.

Each class has its own class charter devised and agreed by the class itself which focuses on respecting each other. In addition we introduced learning behaviours which is embedded throughout the school. Our school rules (Bowmansgreen Agreement) were drawn up by the school council in discussion with teaching staff and thereafter all children.

Visits from the authorities such as the police are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message. Children in Year 5 take part in Hazard Alley workshops whilst the Year 6 take part in pedestrian skills.

- **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 the provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our E Safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it be through choice, challenge, 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 our school rules which were created by the children. The school council and house system gives opportunity for children to meet, discuss and consider different opinions as well as learning to compete with respect for others.

- **Tolerance of those of Different Faith 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. Members of different faiths and religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. Our Tuesday mornings assemblies reflect the different religions within our school, with recent focuses on Rosh Hashanah, Divali and Eid.