



Promoting British Values

British Values

In accordance with guidance from The Department for Education we aim to actively promote British values in school to ensure young people leave school prepared for life in modern Britain. Pupils are encouraged to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance and understand that while different people may hold different views about what is 'right' and 'wrong', all people living in England are subject to its law.

The Key Values are:

- **democracy**
- **rule of law**
- **individual liberty**
- **mutual respect**
- **tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs**
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How this is done at Merstham Primary

We believe that this is best done in context, and through exploration of ideas and questions which are generated by the children themselves. This takes place primarily in our topics and in PSHE lessons. British Values is a theme which runs through our programme of assemblies, and each Value will be discussed in detail at an assembly each half term.

Democracy – what do we do?

Provide pupils with a broad general knowledge of, and promote respect for, public institutions and services;

Teach pupils how they can influence decision-making through the democratic process and involve them in this process through the school council;

Include discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of democracy and how it works in Britain

Hold elections and other votes so pupils learn how to argue and defend points of view

Help pupils to express their views

Model how perceived injustice can be peacefully challenged

Rule of law – what do we do?

Ensure school rules and expectations are clear and fair;

Classroom Code of Conduct – linked to Rights and Responsibilities;

Class rules and celebration of adhering to these rules;

Help pupils to distinguish right from wrong;

Help pupils to respect the law and the basis on which it is made;

Help pupils to understand that living under the rule of law protects individuals.

Individual liberty – what do we do?

Support pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence;

Encourage pupils to take responsibility for their behaviour, as well as knowing their rights;

Model freedom of speech through pupil participation, while ensuring protection of



vulnerable pupils and promoting critical analysis of evidence;
Challenge stereotypes;
Implement a strong anti-bullying culture – SEAL theme – ‘Say no to bullying’;
E-Safety throughout school.

Respect and tolerance – what do we do?

Promote respect for individual differences;
Help pupils to acquire an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other cultures and ways of life;
Challenge prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour;
Develop links with faith and other communities through RE and working alongside children and their families;
Learning to disagree in a respectful way;
Develop critical personal thinking skills.