

Somers Heath Primary School

British Values



We recognise the diversity within our multi-cultural society and ensure that British Values are embedded within our ethos and curriculum. The teaching of British Values is integrated through the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) learning that takes place across all curriculum areas. We promote democracy, individual liberty and we celebrate major world religions (tolerance, rule of law).

We ensure **Democracy and Rule of Law** in a number of ways including:

- Our School Council promotes the democratic process - pupils nominate and vote for their class representatives within the School Council
- Pupils are encouraged to voice their opinions in formal and informal ways (school councillors will gather opinions from their peers to help make decisions; leaders will also carry out pupil voice activities)
- Pupils create and adhere to their code of conduct and school values
- Within the classroom pupils are encouraged to share idea, discuss opinions and listen to others – every voice matters
- Pupils are taught democracy through the curriculum. For example, in PSHE and humanities, stories and real life example help pupils understand how democracy works.
- Pupils and parents are regularly given a voice through surveys, and the results of those surveys inform aspects of the School Improvement Plan.

We ensure **Individual Liberty** in many ways including:

- Pupils have and learn about their key roles and responsibilities within the school
- Pupils are encouraged to respectfully express their views and beliefs
- Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example, through our PHSE and E-Safety lessons.
- During class discussions and through Big Question Assemblies, children share their views and teachers emphasise that pupils can agree or disagree respectfully
- Pupils have the opportunity and are encouraged to take part in a broad range of extra-curricular activities (irrespective of gender, belief, disability or race) without discrimination
- Our RE and PSHE curriculum provides pupils with a broad and balanced understanding of world religions and promotes respect for the beliefs of others and the dangers of discrimination
- Respect all faiths, beliefs and individuals of the LGBT community
- Pupils know who to speak to if they are worried or concerned about themselves or others, e.g. safeguarding officers, teachers, inclusion team staff
- Pupils are provided with boundaries which encourage them to make safe and thoughtful choices

We ensure **Mutual Respect** in many ways including:

- Promoting our school values and ethos – respectful behaviour is reinforced through role modelling, praise and rewards
- Pupils are taught respectful behaviour through their day to day interactions with each other and within the classroom discussions (listening without interruption, using polite language, taking turns, respecting personal space and belongings)
- Through the PSHE curriculum and assemblies, pupils are also taught about feelings and emotions, friendship and teamwork and understanding other's perspectives.
- We celebrate diversity and uniqueness
- Our Behaviour Policy promotes respect for others and are applied fairly and consistently

We ensure **Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs** in many ways including:

- Through RE lessons, pupils learn about major world religions such as Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Sikhism, Hinduism and Buddhism
- Learning is focused on beliefs, festivals, places of worship and values which help children to understand similarities and differences.
- Recognising, celebrating and sharing information about major world religion festivals throughout the year – assemblies and classroom activities support children to understand the meaning behind these celebrations
- Our staff is representative of our school community
- Our School Values are compatible and supportive of all religious morals, ethical principles and human rights – we promote values such as kindness, fairness and empathy
- We provide resources to ensure that all pupils are effectively integrated into the teaching and learning process and the wider school community, including those that join at different starting points and those who have English as an additional language
- All members of the school community treat each other with respect and model this in behaviour with colleagues and pupils
- Pupils work in teams, ask questions and share ideas in public and show respect for other pupils' opinions during class discussions, assemblies, concerts, school council and class forums
- Pupils work together in different groupings and situations in different lessons and subjects and environment
- All pupils have the opportunity to participate in live productions, assemblies and presentations throughout the school year.
- Stories, books and real-life examples within lessons are used from different background – providing diversity