

British Values at Strawberry Fields

British Values

The DfE have 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
- 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 each year. At Strawberry Fields Primary School, these values are in keeping with our values as individuals, as a school and as a society. These values are reinforced regularly and form an important part of our curriculum and are the bedrock of our ethos as a school.

Democracy

Children have many opportunities for their voices to be heard. We have a school council which meets regularly to discuss issues raised in school. The council members for each year group are elected by their class. The council has a say in matter such as which charities the school supports in a particular year.

We have an active eco-council who regularly engage in actions to improve our environment and take care of our world. It is our hope that this empowers our children to understand the differences we can make as individuals and when we work together. We work closely with some community action groups, including eco-friendly Garforth.

We use '[Picture News](#)' for some of our assemblies. These assemblies address current events in an appropriate, child-centred way. Children are always given time to consider the themes being discussed and share their responses.

In recent years, we have been visited by our local MP and our local councillors, and we have also worked with 'UK Parliament' to deliver workshops about democracy to our Y5/6 children. In addition, at times when elections and other significant events are happening in the wider world, these will be discussed in classrooms, for example to help children to understand the process of an election in the United Kingdom.

Each year, children complete our [Pupil Engagement Survey](#), in which they can anonymously

share their views about school. These views are genuinely considered when planning school improvement for the following year, for example, when considering investment in new playground equipment.

The Rule of Law

Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules, and the importance of them being applied reasonably and fairly. These messages are reinforced daily through our interactions with children and through the application of our behaviour policy, and explicitly as part of our restorative approach to behaviour. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service help reinforce these messages.

Individual Liberty

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, both about their learning and behaviour, and, crucially, to take responsibility for these choices. We aim to create a safe and supportive environment for children to make these choices wisely and safely, and have a restorative approach to behaviour when children make 'wrong' or harmful choices.

Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms, and to develop as individuals through decisions they make, for example by choosing to participate in wide variety of enrichment activities.

Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values. All members of the school community should treat each other with respect. Children are taught to understand that their behaviours and choices have an effect on themselves and on others, and that caring about the impact our own choices on others is a core component of respect, and of building a kind and fair school and society.

Children at Strawberry Fields know they will always be listened to and that their opinions will always be considered. Through the attitudes that are modelled and encouraged in school, and through seeing their own faiths and beliefs respected, children learn to respect others.

Learning explicitly about other faiths happens in Religious Education lessons and through assemblies. We also look for opportunities for children to visit places of worship and for visitors of different faiths to visit school.