

Teaching British Values

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.'

At Springcroft these 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 our School Council, through 'Tea with Me' and via Pupil Questionnaires. A class vote decides the members of the council for a year and meetings are held monthly. These pupils bring issues and ideas to the council meetings from their 'constituents'. Hustings are also held at the beginning of each year when pupils in year 6 share their 'manifesto'. Following a vote, that involves all Keystage 2, a captain and vice-captain are elected to represent each house. 'Tea with Me' gives every pupil, on rotation, the opportunity to join a small group and share some time informally with the head teacher. Pupil questionnaires are completed annually, the results shared with staff and governors, and acted upon.

The Rule of Law

The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are constantly reinforced throughout the school day, as well as when dealing with behaviour through school 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 laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police; Fire Service; even Lifeguards are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message. A strong link with our PCSO means that she is a regular visitor to school too.

The School Council took a major role in agreeing our school rules and 'rewards and sanctions triangles'. Each year every class agrees their own class code of conduct that works in *partnership with our school rules*.

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 in safety, through of provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it be through choice of challenge, of how they record, of participation in our extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices. They are constantly encouraged to make the right choice in matters of behaviour.

Mutual Respect

An understanding of respect and tolerance is developed through our school ethos, our mission statement and our rights and responsibilities. Posters around the school promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our behaviour policy. SEAL (Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning) is taught across the school as part of PSHE.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths 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. The curriculum ensures that pupils learn about different faiths and, members of school who share a different faith or religion are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE. Celebrations such as Diwali or Chinese New Year are enjoyed in class and in assembly. Links have been made with a school in Malawi. The opportunity for reflection is given in assembly.