

Promoting British Values at Oughton Primary and Nursery 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 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 Oughton these values are reinforced regularly through our Values and PHSCE and SEAL (Social, Emotional Aspects of Learning) curriculum. We follow the SEAL themes of New Beginnings, Getting on and Falling out, Say No to Bullying, Going for Goals, It’s Good to be me, Relationships and Changes each half term. Within in this, each week an assembly focus is chosen following each theme. We also promote Values such as: Unity, Hope, Quality, Freedom, Appreciation and Caring each half term, promoted in assemblies each week.

We celebrate and promote British Values and Culture through special days and assemblies, such as Harvest Festival, Scarecrow Festival, St George’s Day, Remembrance Day, Christmas, Christmas Carol Service, Christmas Tree Festival, Valentine Celebration (often focusing on the love for learning – Maths), Easter Assembly and Egg Hunts, Mother’s Day to name a few.

Our Chair of Governors, Reverend Jane Mainwaring supports us in our special assemblies, some of which are held in St Mark’s Church. Reverend Jane Mainwaring is our Link Governor for RE and Collective Worship.

We promote the British Values in the following ways:

- **Democracy:**

Democracy is promoted within the school. Children have the opportunity to have their voice heard through our School Council and children questionnaires. Our School Council are elected in each class by other children. Discussions are held within classes and feedback is given to the School Council on various topics. These views are fed back to the Senior Leadership Team within school. The children’s views have been sought when we have updated various policies such as Feedback and Marking and the Behaviour Policy. Our Senior Leadership Team regularly talks to and listens to the views of the children within our monitoring schedule.

- **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 school assemblies. Pupils are taught the values 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 and Fire Service help reinforce this message. Our Behaviour Policy reinforces the rules within the school, using rewards and

consequences. Our Positive Play Awards and Values Certificates reward the children for their positive actions and behaviour. Behaviour for learning is promoted within each class to support positive behaviours.

- **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 people to make choices safely, through our provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advise how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSCHE lessons. Whether it be through choice of challenge, of how they record, of participation in numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices. Within our Behaviour Policy, the element of choice is highlighted, the choice between decisions of controlling emotions and behaviour. Our History curriculum teaches the lessons learned from the past.

- **Mutual Respect:**

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy has revolved around Core Values such as 'Respect', and pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies related to what this means and how it is shown. Posters around the school promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our behaviour policy. Value certificates are awarded in assemblies each week and children chosen who are promoting the SEAL theme for the week. Mutual respect is promoted through our RE curriculum. Our ethos of inclusion promotes differences and similarities through both assemblies and special days, such as 'Paralympic Day.'

- **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. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE, History and PSHCE. Oughton Primary and Nursery School celebrates other languages through special days such as 'The European Day of Languages' where language and culture is celebrated. Each class learns about a country, linked where possible to languages spoken by our EAL pupils. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school.