

Promoting British Values at Hazel Slade Academy

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."

The government has 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 Hazel Slade Academy these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy:

Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our pupil elected School Council. School Council Members are elected through pupil voting. Every child from Reception to Year 6 has the opportunity to stand for election and does so, by presenting themselves to their peers, outlining their own qualities and strengths. Each class holds a secret ballot with a ballot paper and a candidate is voted in. Year Six pupils also choose a Lead School Council Member and a Secretary.

The School Council meets every half term. The minutes and agenda of the school council meetings are shared with the rest of the school during assemblies.

Our school behaviour policy involves individual rewards of dojos which lead to bronze, silver, gold, diamond and platinum awards. Which are given immediately to pupils.

Within classes there are regular votes held to make democratic choices, for example Reception choose their next book by a voting system, teams to work in, next activities to take place, whole school events.

The Rule of Law:

The importance of Laws, whether they are those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced through our behaviour system. Our class dojo points are celebrated with certificates, along with termly celebration assemblies.

Assemblies also help to reinforce these rules and our pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws; that they govern and protect us and the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken.

Visits from authorities such as the Police and the Fire Service are regular parts of our calendar, particularly in the foundation stage and these are presented to the children as 'People who help us,' and this helps to reinforce this message, to our youngest and most vulnerable students.

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 our pupils to help them make these choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms, and are advised how to exercise these rights safely, for example through our E-Safety, Question of the Week sessions, RE and PSHE lessons.

Mutual Respect:

The children are taught about mutual respect through our behaviour policy. We also discuss it through PSHE, RE and English lessons.

Displays around the school promote respect for others both in our own community and online. Children are exposed to the views of others and understand how to respect them.

Remembrance gave our pupils a good opportunity to show respect for our Armed Forces and for those that have lost their lives in all of the wars through the years.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

Our RE lessons provide a broad and balanced education on a range of faiths, religions and cultures.

Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying, these have been followed and supported by learning in RE, PSHE and Question of the Week.