

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.”

The Government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy, and these values have been reiterated this year (2014). At Lemington Riverside Primary School these values are reinforced regularly .

The British values are:-

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect
- tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

At Lemington Riverside Primary School we actively promote these values through our school ethos and effective role models.

1. Democracy

- a) The school and curriculum provides pupils with a broad general knowledge of, and promote respect for, public institutions and services
- b) We teach pupils how they can influence decision-making through the democratic process. Children are taught about the advantages and disadvantages of democracy and how it works in Britain.
- c) Children are encouraged to become involved in decision-making processes and the school ensures that they are listened to in school e.g. school council.
- d) The school holds elections for the School council during which the pupils learn how to express, argue and defend points of view.
- e) Children are taught how public services operate and how they are held to account.
- f) The school curriculum and ethos also teaches children how we can peacefully challenge perceived injustice.

2. Rule of law

As a School we ensure that the school rules and expectations are clear and fair.

The school's ethos and curriculum play a significant role in helping the pupils:-

- a. To distinguish right from wrong and to respect the law and the basis on which it is made.
- b. To understand that living under the rule of law protects individuals.
- c. Through visitors to school via both assemblies and curriculum activities.
- d. Through children being taught about both civil and criminal law; in addition, we look at how this may differ from some religious laws.

3. Individual liberty – Through the school ethos and curriculum we:-

- a) Support children to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence.
- b) Encourage children to take responsibility for their behaviour, as well as knowing their rights.
- c) Model freedom of speech through pupil participation, while ensuring protection of vulnerable pupils and promoting critical analysis of evidence.
- d) Challenge stereotypes
- e) Implement a strong anti-bullying culture

4. Respect and tolerance – Through the school ethos and curriculum we:-

- a) Promote respect for individual difference.
- b) Help children to acquire an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other cultures and ways of life.
- c) Challenge prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour
- d) Organise visits to places of worship
- e) Develop critical personal thinking skills
- f) Discuss differences between people, such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, gender or sexuality and differences of family situations, such as looked-after children or young carers