

Promoting Modern British Values at Rokeby Park Primary School

TEACHING BRITISH VALUES

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We believe our school is an excellent place to learn as we have a very strong, caring ethos as we believe every child deserves the very best.

Schools are required to nurture their pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development and as part of this requirement we are expected to actively promote fundamental British Values.

The government defines these as:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

The values are reflected throughout our school, including in our ethos, policies and assemblies.

Pupils also engage with the values through the curriculum, in ways that are suitable for their age and context.

Our duty to actively promote fundamental British values also means we are responsible for challenging prejudiced or extreme opinions and behaviour.

Democracy

Each year the pupils decide upon their class rules and the rights and responsibilities associated with these. Every pupil and member of staff abides by these rules. The pupils and staff actively engage with each other to create positive and harmonious learning environments, where everyone is responsible for the rules.

We have a School Council and members are voted in each year by their peers. The School Council meets regularly to discuss issues raised in class council meetings. The Council also meets with the Headteacher to share their findings and is genuinely able to effect change within the school. The School Council also meet with local Hull City Councillors to find out about democracy in the city.

We encourage pupils to be leaders throughout the school and have a number of activities and responsibilities that are undertaken by the pupils. For example, pupils from KS2 are Play Leaders at play times and lunch times and other KS2 pupils take on responsibilities at lunch time in the dining hall.

Pupils have the opportunity to express their views in school through pupil voice interviews and questionnaires; they are able to put forward their views about the school and these are then considered and where possible, implemented by the school.

The Rule of Law

Behaviour and safety at Rokeby Park is consistently good and is a high priority of the school community. The importance of law is consistently reinforced at Rokeby Park Primary school. Pupils are taught from an early age about the behaviour aims of the school and how they are expected to behave in our society.

Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and laws so that they understand, that they govern and protect us and about the responsibilities involved and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police, the Prison Service and Fire Service help reinforce these messages.

Taking part in games and being part of sports teams helps pupils to learn about the importance of rules. Pupils also understand the importance of attending school regularly and that they have a right to an education. The importance of good attendance and coming to school is highlighted through a weekly assembly.

All pupils know what is expected of them, why rules are so important, and what the consequences are if they do not follow them.

Individual Liberty

At Rokeby Park pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we provide boundaries for young pupils to make informed choices and pupils are rewarded for making the correct choices. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our e-Safety and PSHE lessons. They also understand that with rights come responsibilities. Pupils are given freedom to make choices such as which out of school club they would like to attend.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect. Displays around the school promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom rules and behaviour aims.

When pupils do well their efforts are always celebrated; this could be through praise in class or being awarded a 'Star Pupil' award in assembly.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

At Rokeby Park Primary we actively promote diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures. Religious Education lessons and PSHE lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others. The children visit local places of worship that are important to different faiths. As a school we work closely with families from different faiths in order to ensure that all children are included.