

Reed First School

British Value Statement

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 by the Prime Minister this year. Our school ethos has always been based on these values. Although they are values we hold here in Britain, they are not exclusive to Britain. They are shared by others in Europe and the wider world. At Reed First School, these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy

Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council and pupil voice interviews with Subject Leaders and Governors. They are consulted on various issues in school and their views are taken into account when new initiatives are considered.

The Rule of Law

Pupils are taught, at an age-appropriate level, the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Pupils understand the positive behaviour policy in school and the rewards and sanctions in it. They are taught the importance of taking responsibility for their actions and in trying to make amends when poor choices have been made. Members of the Police and Fire Service visit school at least annually.

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 children to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through E-Safety. Whether it be through choice of challenge or of participation in extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, children are given the freedom to make choices.

Mutual Respect

Our school ethos and behaviour policy embraces core values particularly respect. There is an expectation that our pupils listen to each other and try to take account of the differing points of view held by others. This is embedded in the culture of the school and aspects are frequently discussed in assemblies.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Pupils at Reed First School talk confidently about respecting all faiths. They are aware that the local community includes people of different faiths and are keen to hear about the similarities and differences of their beliefs during assemblies and in class RE sessions. We give them opportunities to experience and discuss diversity of faith, ethnicity and background. The school teaches about festivals from different faiths. We are keen to encourage visitors who are members of different faiths and families from varied ethnic backgrounds who are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning and understanding within classes and the school.