

# **Promoting British Values at Larkrise Primary School**

At Larkrise Primary School we encourage our children 'to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation 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. At all Eveleigh Link Academy Trust schools these values are implemented and reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

## **- Democracy**

Democracy is a concept and quality this is explicit in many aspects of our school life. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council. At these meetings the pupil voice is encouraged and children make key decisions about a range of events and situations that affect them. The elections of school councillors gives pupils an opportunity to vote. With elections the children see and grasp an opportunity to choose candidates after they have made a speech presenting a 'manifesto'. Elections in KS2 are held with ballot papers being filled in confidentially in the same way that an adult would vote. These actions are an opportunity to discuss how important it is to run elections fairly and correctly. Successful candidates are given the opportunity to run the school alongside the Headteacher and make key decisions and design actions and policy.

## **-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. PSHCE schemes of work ensure a good coverage of these key facets of society in the correct cycle of learning. The school and the Academy Trust have recently bought into the JIGSAW PSHCE scheme, which is all embracing and encompasses all of the main aspects of this important area of learning. Pupils are taught the value and the 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, the Fire Service etc are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message. The 'Crucial Crew' experience for Year 6 children allows them to see the importance of caring for individuals, property and the rule of law.

Individual classes are involved at the beginning of each academic year in creating a charter or set of agreed rules for their class. These are displayed, referred to, discussed and adhered to.

### **-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 pupils to make choices safely, through a provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Pupils 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 PSHCE lessons. Whether it be through choice of challenge, of how they record, of participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

### **-Mutual respect**

Our strong school ethos and behaviour are reflected in a range of policies. Key core values such as Curiosity, Happiness, Integrity and Endeavour are embodied in all areas of school life. Pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies related to what it means and how it is shown. Displays around the school promote respect and this is reiterated through our classroom rules and our behaviour policy. In all aspects we are an inclusive school.

### **-Tolerance of those of different faiths, beliefs and cultures**

This is achieved through enhancing pupils understanding of their place in culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. Our detailed curriculum for RE, as well as topics that develop an understanding of other cultures and parts of the world, ensure a varied and non-tokenistic factual coverage. Assemblies and discussions and stories about different types of prejudices and prejudice-based issues and events in history have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHCE. The school teaches Spanish as the Modern Foreign Language and we celebrate a 'Spanish Day' every year. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and school assemblies.