

British Values in Action in the Keys



At all schools in The Keys we take very seriously our responsibility to prepare children for life in modern Britain. We ensure that the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs are introduced, discussed and lived out through the ethos and work of the school.

Through RE, PSHE, spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development, we are able to make real links between the values of our pupils and the lives of others in their community, country and the world in general. Through our curriculum we teach about democracy, civic responsibility, rules and laws, the monarchy, equality, values, environmental awareness and understanding of other faiths.

Being part of Britain

As a Trust, we value and celebrate the diverse heritages of everybody. Alongside this, we value and celebrate being part of Britain. In general terms, this means that we celebrate traditions, such as customs in the course of the year and we value and celebrate national events.

Mutual respect and tolerance of others in action

- Be kind, friendly and respectful to everyone in school
- Holding weekly achievement and celebration assembly
- Helping pupils to acquire an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other cultures and ways of life
- Celebrating the fusion of cultures in our family of schools
- Challenging prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour
- Organising visits to places of worship
- Children of different faiths and religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school
- Developing links with other faith communities
- Developing critical personal thinking skills
- Discussing differences between people, such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, and gender and differences of family situations, such as young carers

- Providing a Nurture spaces for our Pastoral Programme which provides support for children (sometimes with outside agencies) to develop specific social and emotional skills.
- Challenging pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to the values we hold as a school, including 'extremist' views.

Democracy in action

- Supporting pupils to reflect upon their rights and responsibilities
- Teaching pupils how they can influence decision-making through the democratic process
- Pupils voting in elections for School Councils, House Captains and Eco Councils. They write speeches to persuade the voters
- Encouraging pupils to become involved in decision-making processes and ensure they are listened to in school – this is achieved through our School Councils and Eco Councils
- Pupils voting on which charities to support
- Holding class debates so pupils learn how to argue and defend points of view
- Helping pupils to express their views
- Enabling pupils to have their voices heard through our School Councils and pupil discussions
- Teaching pupils how public services operate and how they are held to account
- Modelling strategies on how to resolve perceived injustice
- Encouraging pupils as leaders throughout the school: Lead learners, Year 6 children supporting Reception children, Lunchtime helpers, Cool Milk monitors, Reading Buddies, Leading Clubs e.g. Code Club, introduction of playground pals

Rule of law in action

- Implementing school and classroom rules which ensures that behaviour is consistently good
- Ensuring school rules and expectations are clear and fair
- Pupils acting as ambassadors for the school when representing the school outside e.g. educational visits, sports tournaments
- Helping pupils to distinguish right from wrong
- Helping pupils to respect the law and the basis on which it is made
- Helping pupils to understand that living under the rule of law protects individuals
- Developing restorative justice approaches to resolve conflicts
- Arranging safety visits e.g. Louis Taylor Road Show, fire safety, police, online safety

The importance of rules/laws at every level - class, school, or the country, are consistently reinforced on a daily basis. We also link our school rules to stories about Jesus' work and the choices he made when discussing behaviour through school assemblies.

Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind law – they learn that they are there to govern and protect us. The responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken.

Individual liberty in action

- Encouraging pupils to take responsibility for their behaviour, as well as knowing their rights
- Marking and feedback enables pupils to know their successes and what the next steps are for learning
- Supporting pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence
- Modelling freedom of speech through pupil participation, while ensuring protection of vulnerable pupils and promoting critical analysis of evidence
- Challenging stereotypes
- Implementing of a strong anti-bullying culture
- Taking part in enrichment clubs

Within our family of schools, 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 pupils to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and we advise how to exercise these safely, for example, through our Online Safety and PSHE lessons.

Core Values

At St Cecilia's Church of England Primary School, gratitude, kindness, truthfulness, forgiveness, perseverance and an expectation to Be the Best you can Be will underpin our school ethos and behaviour policy. These core values will form part of discussions and assemblies related to what this means and how we will see them in action in our community.

In the Trust, we value the diverse ethnic backgrounds of all pupils and families and undertake a variety of events and lessons to celebrate these and they are built in to our whole school curriculum map. We have found this approach to be enriching for all parties as it teaches tolerance and respect for the differences in our community and the wider world. Underpinning all of this are a range of curriculum topics which have strong links to British values.

Over the past few years as a Trust, we have celebrated topics such as:

- The Olympics/Paralympics – where children learned about the history of Olympians nationally and locally and visits to school are made by Olympians and Paralympians to inspire our children.
- Guy Fawkes and Bonfire Night – We hold an annual community Fireworks display
- The Diamond Jubilee anniversary of the reign of Queen Elizabeth II where all year groups were given the opportunity to develop their understanding of the British Monarchy through the school's curriculum.
- The First World War and the Second World War.
- Remembrance Day is marked at all our schools.
- VE Day – whole school focus day culminating in an assembly presentation

- We place great emphasis on having traditions and special events throughout the school year. This is to create opportunities for performance; to bring the school together as a community; to raise money for charity and to create a sense of belonging.