

John Perry Primary School



Promoting British Values Policy

February 2017

Promoting British Values at John Perry Primary School

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.”

This is also set out in the DfE Teachers Standards that:

Teachers uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school, by:

“not undermining fundamental British Values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs “ (Teachers Standards 9d)

The Government’s definition of British values is set out in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. At John Perry Primary School, the Values sit alongside the aims of the school. We believe our school is a unique place to work and learn. It has an individual identity that combines traditional values with a modern, vibrant vision. Children lie at the heart of this successful school. Staff bring a breadth and depth of professional knowledge and encourage a learning culture with a strong ethos of inclusion.

In addition to this at John Perry we also aim to:

- Offer our children the best possible education within the context of a caring and values based community;
- Provide a happy school environment where everyone secure and valued;
- Work in partnership with parents in the education of their children and encourage their involvement and support;
- Teach the skills required to seek knowledge independently, allowing children to nurture a love of learning;
- Enable high standards to be achieved across the curriculum through the acquisition of knowledge, skill and understanding;
- Foster the development of high self-esteem, through positive action and statement;
- Expect high standards of behaviour, with respect and consideration shown by everyone, both within the school community and outside in the wider world;
- Develop a caring ethos for the environment and the world we live in;
- Develop an understanding of other cultures and religions through all major religions studied and to foster spiritual growth;
- Prepare children for the next stage of their education, and stage of life.

They are promoted through the curriculum as well as within the life, values and work of the school.

Democracy

The children learn about democracy in a range of contexts which are meaningful to them. Democracy is richly embedded within the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our Pupil Voice, pupil questionnaires, meeting with the Headteacher and through being either a House Captain, play leader, lunch-time monitor or a School Councillor. Our school behaviour and values policies involve rewards and sanctions; this is shared through all aspects of school life and also shared with parents, carers and children from Nursery to Year 6.

The children at John Perry have an opportunity to have an active role in decisions that are made and consequently prepare them for their role as future citizens and members of society. House Captains and Vice-captains as well as members of the School Council are elected each year, following speeches made in whole school assemblies by those wishing to represent the school. Our School Council meet regularly to discuss issues, monitor the work of the school, and agree ways in which provision for education can be further enhanced and developed.

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 the day, as well as when dealing with behaviour. Clear structures provide a framework, within which the children can develop an understanding of how good laws and rules benefit everyone.

Children are taught the value and reasons behind laws and rules, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. This is embedded through our Values ethos, PSHE lessons, school assemblies and class charters. As a school we work to provide children with good role models to guide our pupils into making the right choices. This is also supported in the wider community through the use of visitors including police and fire-fighters.

Individual Liberty

Within school, children are actively encouraged to develop responsibility, think independently and make sensible choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. Through the provision of a clear context for learning, and a framework of expectations, boundaries are provided, within which the children are safe and empowered to make choices.

Children are respected individuals, and are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise those safely, for example through E-Safety lessons and workshops and through our Health Lifestyles lessons and policy.

Pupils are further empowered through being part of our School council and being able to take part in pupil forums which link directly to the senior leadership team or governors. Pupils are given the freedom to make a wide range of choices from attending extra-curricular clubs to supporting fund raising events and the options to take on additional responsibilities such as Library duties or lunch-time monitors.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values, and is clearly articulated in our Code of Conduct. 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. At John Perry we take pride in participating in regular charity events and raising money for particular causes that are close to our hearts. As a school we continuously promote the importance of manners towards others and this is

always evident with the children at John Perry, whether they are in school or outside of school. Additionally, we expect parents and carers to also advocate the use of manners and respect for others outside of school life.

At John Perry we also provide many opportunities to work as a team as part of raising the profile of mutual respect. This is encouraged through a range of contexts in school and outside of school including; Whole school sports day events, Word of the Week assemblies, celebration of Black History Months, World Autism Awareness Week and World Mental Health week, as well as sports competitions and PSHE lessons.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Tolerance is a value that is widely promoted as part of our school values ethos and is core to school life. We value the diverse ethnic background of all pupils and families and undertake a variety of events and lessons to celebrate these. We have found this approach to be enriching for all parties as it further educates and supports the understanding of tolerance and respect for the differences in our community and the wider world. Underpinning all of this are a range of curriculum themes, which include a study of diverse cultures and traditions through Religious Education lessons. We place a great emphasis on promoting diversity within the school and wider world. Collective worship and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed up and supported by learning in RE and PSHCE. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school during Faith Awareness Week.

We actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views. These values are implicitly embedded through the ethos of our school and curriculum. They are reflected within each area of the curriculum and we are always working on ways that we can ensure that these values are enhanced.