

## Promoting British Values

The DfE has 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. At Emscote Infant School and All Saints’ CofE Junior School these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

### **Democracy:**

Democracy is richly embedded within the schools. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through School Councils, Aspire, peer mediators, Eco Council, pupil questionnaires, meetings with the executive headteacher and associate headteachers, and being house captains. Our school behaviour policy includes rewards and sanctions; this is shared through all aspects of school life and also shared with parents, carers and children from reception to year 6.

### **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 collective worship time. Pupils are taught the value and 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 and fire service are a regular part of our calendar events and help reinforce this message. Our themed curriculum is a crucial vehicle for teaching the rule of law and the how these came into force.

### **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 all pupils to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and an empowering approach through their education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our e-safety and PSHCE lessons. Pupils are further empowered through being part of a school council and other groups. Pupils are given the freedom to make a wide range of choices from attending extracurricular clubs to choosing and supporting fund-raising events.

### **Mutual Respect:**

As a school which holds values at the core of its ethos our school values and behaviour policy have evolved around core values such as respect, and pupils have been part of discussions and collective worship related to what this means and how it is shown. Respect is one of our values taught explicitly within lessons and collective worship. Adults throughout the school model, demonstrate and promote respect for others as do older children who have suitable, age-related tasks and responsibilities, and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our behaviour.

**Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:**

At Emscote Infant School and All Saints' CofE Junior School we are a culturally rich and diverse school where children have unique opportunities to learn from each other by sharing and celebrating their different faiths and cultures. 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.