

Promoting British Values

Here at St Andrew's we believe that British Values, alongside our Christian Values, consistently encourage, nourish and challenge SMSC (spiritual, moral, social and cultural) development. They have a significant impact on the children's motivation, self image, achievement and behaviour. This promotes an understanding of their role in local, national and global communities.

We agree with the Department for Education's five part definition of British Values:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

Democracy:

At the beginning of each school year the children contribute to the drawing up of their class rules and the rights associated with these.

Children have many opportunities for their voices to be heard. We have a school council which meets regularly to discuss issues raised in class meetings. The council is able to genuinely effect change within the school. Two council members for each year group are voted in by their class.

Each week classes are able to nominate peers for 'Friend of the Week'. The children then carry out a secret vote for those nominated. The winners of the vote are then congratulated during celebration worship and the reason for their nomination is shared and celebrated. Children also use class votes to encourage ownership of their learning, voting on ideas suggested during brainstorming and planning at the start of topics and during lessons in all areas of the curriculum.

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 worship. This ensures conflicts are resolved speedily, compassionately and in a spirit of reconciliation and justice.

Children 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 help reinforce this message.

Individual liberty:

Within school, children 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 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 are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it be through choice of learning challenge, of how they record, of participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, children are given the freedom to make choices.

Mutual respect:

All stakeholders were involved in selecting the school's six core values: Friendship, Trust, Compassion, Forgiveness, Thankfulness and Peace, all of which, alongside our British Values, promote mutual respect.

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. We actively encourage our children to think about their actions, language and behaviour towards other people and the impact it may have. We work hard to develop our children's ability to have a respect for others when they leave our school in order for them to thrive in the wider world.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs:

At St Andrew's we actively promote diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures. Our curriculum and the routines of our daily school life reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others. The entire school community are encouraged to share their knowledge and experiences to enhance learning within classes and the school.