

SOKE EDUCATION TRUST

Promoting British Values

Approved via Governorhub

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Promoting British Values

Aims

At Wittering Primary School we actively promote both the school values and British Values so that children develop their knowledge and understanding of a complex society. This policy sets out how we will uphold these values in our school community.

Legislation and Guidance

The Department for Education state that there is a 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”

Definitions

The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. The values, which were reiterated by the Prime Minister in 2014 are:

- Democracy
- Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

These values are reinforced regularly at Wittering Primary School through our teaching of a broad and balanced curriculum and they are also explicitly taught through Personal, Social, Health and Emotional education (PHSE) and Religious Education (RE).

British Values are reinforced through our assemblies, which are planned so that we cover a range of topics each term and our whole school systems and structures such as electing and running a successful School Council, Planet Protectors and PTFA Reps.

We ensure that British Values are upheld through our curriculum planning and delivery, which includes real opportunities for exploring these values. Pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including ‘extremist’ views are always challenged.

Throughout school the British Values are upheld in the following ways:

Democracy

Democracy is an important value at our school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council. **The elections of members to these groups are based on pupil votes.** School actively work towards the behaviour code which is displayed in each classroom and actively promoted by everyone around school around school to influence others’ behaviour.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws and rules, whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout school. Our behaviour system is aligned to an agreed set of codes and if children are given verbal reminders or warnings this is always set against the agreed school behaviour code. 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 regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty

At Wittering Primary School, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices and we support and educate children so that they can do so safely. Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely. This may take place throughout the planned curriculum, through our e-safety teaching or PSHE lessons or as part of a class discussion. Pupils are given the freedom to make choices, which includes the responsibility of signing up for extra-curricular clubs, choosing the level of challenge in some lessons and or becoming involved in child-led learning. Through restorative justice children are taught to consider their behaviour, it's positive and negative consequences and strategies they can put into practice.

Mutual Respect

Respect is one of the core values of our school. This can be seen and felt in our ethos as you move about our school. The pupils know and understand that it is expected and imperative that respect is shown to everyone, whatever differences we may have. The core value of respect underpins our work every day both in and out of the classroom.

Children and adults alike, including visitors are challenged if they are disrespectful in any way. Values are highly visible around the school and can be seen in posters, certificates and as part of our agreed codes.

Tolerance of Those with Different Faiths and Beliefs

This is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity in our local community. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudiced-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE. We welcome staff and visitors who bring and share a diversity of skills and experiences.

Safeguarding and Safer Recruitment

As part of ensuring that British Values and beliefs are promoted the recruitment process at Wittering Primary School includes questions which probe and challenge candidate's intentions for employment.

External providers who are invited into school are made aware of our safeguarding procedures, what to do if there is a concern. Bookings with external providers include checks regarding links to other organisations that do not uphold British Values.

Links with other policies

Religious Education

Safeguarding and Child Protection

Safer Recruitment