

British Values

The government set out their definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. These were reinforced in September 2014. These new regulations will sit alongside the requirements of the Equalities Act, which applies to all types of schools.

Schools will be expected to focus on, and be able to show, how their work with pupils is effective in embedding fundamental British values.

Promoting British values at Allesley Primary School

The Department for Education's five-part definition of British values are;

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

At Allesley Primary School children will encounter these principles throughout everyday school life. In particular, through our promotion of spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding.

The curriculum is mapped in detail across the whole school. Listed below are some examples of how we promote these values in our school community:

Democracy

Pupil voice is significant in regards to life at Allesley. Our pupil elected school council plays a strong role in our school. They are elected by their class peers and are involved in making the school a better place to learn. Pupils have a great amount of input in regards to what and how they learn, which promotes pupil voice.

Pupil questionnaires and interviews are also conducted throughout the year around various aspects of school life, for example, in establishing their thoughts about the school environment, the curriculum and selecting Sports leaders and Playground Pals.

The basics and the origins of democracy are studied through the Ancient Greek theme undertaken in year 6.

We know that the formation of the school council and the active participation of our pupils will sow seeds for a more sophisticated understanding of democracy in the future.

The Rule of Law

Our pupils will encounter rules and laws throughout their entire lives. We want our pupils to understand that whether these laws govern the class, the school, the neighbourhood or the country, they are set for good reasons and must be adhered to.

This understanding of the importance of rules will be consistently reinforced through assemblies and our curriculum. The involvement of our pupils in the creation of the school rules helps them to understand the reasons behind the rules and the consequences if they are broken. Through appropriate lessons, we allow opportunity to debate and discuss the reasons for laws so that children can recognise the importance of these for their own protection. Throughout the year we welcome visits from members of the wider community including police, the fire brigade and many more. We believe that clear explanations and real life stories emphasise the importance of the rule of law for our pupils.

Year 5 and 6 children have a visit each year from local magistrates, based on the importance of law and order and participate in active debates.

Individual Liberty

We invest a great deal of time in creating a positive culture in our school, so that children are in a safe environment where choices and freedoms are encouraged. We offer a range of clubs which pupils have the freedom to choose from, based on their interests.

School trips and educational visits are discussed with the children, in order to tailor the curriculum to their needs where appropriate too.

Mutual respect

Mutual respect is at the core of our school life and children do learn to treat each other and staff with great respect. This is evident when walking around our school and in the classrooms.

Allesley Primary promotes mutual respect by the reward systems in place, for example, 'Caught Being Good', 'Golden Tickets', 'Star of the week' and 'Weekly achievement awards'.

Mutual respect is also evident within the clubs that the children attend or clubs they support with. For example, the Junior Librarians, the Sports Leaders and the Playground Pals.

PSHE lessons are regularly undertaken which help the children to see all people as equals in different situations.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

At Allesley Primary we offer a culturally rich and diverse curriculum in which all major religions are studied and respected. We strongly believe that tolerance is gained through knowledge and understanding.

Through the breadth of our RE curriculum the children acquire a good level of knowledge of a wide range of faiths, which they are encouraged to respect equally. This is also consolidated by organised trips to different places of worship and through visitors to our children from different places of worship.

There are specific cultural events planned to recognise and celebrate the diverse society that we live in.

Through our curriculum and the routines of our daily school life, we strive to demonstrate tolerance and help children to become knowledgeable and understanding citizens who can build a better Britain in the future.