

Promoting British values at St Martin's C of E Primary School

At St. Martin's we promote fundamental British Values, as defined in the HM Government's 'Prevent Strategy 2011', of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect & tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

The school takes opportunities to actively promote British Values through our daily assemblies and whole school systems and structures such as electing and running a successful School Council. We also actively promote the British values through ensuring that our curriculum planning and delivery includes real opportunities for exploring these values. Actively promoting British Values also means challenging pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views.

Our good practice in RE constantly links to British values. Teachers relate teaching and learning in RE back to the individual and to the wider world. Each year group learns about a faith other than Christianity, which helps children have a better understanding of the world, giving them the power to show an informed **tolerance of others** in later life.

Our coverage of the Bible provides ample opportunity to discuss issues of **individual liberty**. For example, whilst children in KS1 are learning about Moses they explore the issues of slavery. The story of receiving the 10 commandments allows children to talk about rules and consequences. In Key Stage 2, other key faiths studied have rituals and codes of conduct which enable children to investigate the domain of **behaviours, rewards and consequences** at a higher level. In addition to this, children also learn about the creation of our wonderful world and their own personal responsibility to protect and look after it.

Our Geography news books, which run throughout the school, play a key part in promoting British values through the discussion of environment issues, sustainability and world issues. Our PSHE curriculum positively promotes all aspects of British values.

Democracy:

Democracy is an essential value at our school and pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard in all aspects of school life. School council and House Captain Elections are held annually and are based on a democratic voting system where children are nominated for the roles and selected by fellow students. Our School Council elections take place in the school hall with year 6 and voting booths are borrowed from the local Council to add to the importance and authenticity of the event.

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 assemblies. 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 help reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty:

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. We deliver a values led curriculum and children are encouraged to live the values through action. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons. Our Forest School program teaches children how to manage their own risk and foster relationships through team work. Whether it be through choice of learning challenge; of how they record their learning; of participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

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 which is largely white British. One of our key values is 'respect'. This value is woven into all aspects of school life. It also ensures tolerance of those who have different faiths and beliefs. St Martin's Primary School enhances pupils understanding of different faiths and beliefs through our theme based curriculum; RE, P.S.H.E. work, assemblies and discussions. We are very proud to be linked to Shanghai Chang Zheng Central Primary School in China where exchanges regularly take place with the latest visit being undertaken by two of our year 5 boys who spent 6 days in Shanghai in April 18. Pupils in year 5 have the opportunity to correspond with a German link school in Guglingen writing in target language and pupils in year 6 spend a week in France experiencing a different culture first hand.