



British Values at Fairfield Academy

At Fairfield Academy, we uphold and teach pupils about the British Values which are defined as:

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

These values are taught explicitly through our core values and integrated learning skills. They are also taught through lessons in Personal, Social, Health and Emotional (PSHE), and Religious Education (RE). We also teach the British Values through planning and delivering a broad and balanced curriculum, and the way we run our Academy (embodying respect, democracy and tolerance of all).

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.

At Fairfield Academy these values are reinforced regularly and 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 of the School Council and of Year 6 Prefects are based to a large extent on pupil votes.

Children recommend each other for awards, which are presented to individual children (or classes) who show they are modelling the values of respect, responsibility, perseverance or creativity.

The children have worked together and have agreed codes of practice that we at Fairfield Academy actively work and live by. These codes are available in each classroom and actively used by children and adults influencing what is an agreed acceptable behaviour.

In addition, some assemblies follow a current affairs programme where we can teach about democracy through events such as the Arab Spring.

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 regular school days. Our behaviour codes are clear and children are given verbal warnings.

Children are asked to identify which aspect of the code they have broken to ensure that this connection is made and understood. Awards /credits have been introduced to reward children for always being 'good' and living their life by the chosen set of rules.

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, fire service, ambulance etc., are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty:

Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices at our school, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school, we provide boundaries for our children to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and planned curriculum.

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 teaching and PSHE lessons.

Pupils are given the freedom to make choices, e.g. signing up for extra-curricular clubs, choose the level of challenge in some lessons and are becoming increasingly more involved in child-led learning, e.g. planning and delivering child led assemblies and evaluating assemblies, influencing how adults deliver content in future assemblies.

Mutual Respect:

Our school ethos and behaviour policy are based around our core values at school and embody Christian values such as 'respect' and 'responsibility' and these values determine how we live as a community at Fairfield Academy.

Assemblies are based on 'Values for Life' and are central to how we expect everyone to go about their life at our school. Anti bullying assemblies and programmes on human rights teaching, all reflect our commitment to mutual respect.

Equally, our charity work and invitations to charities to come into our Academy all help in teaching mutual respect as well as reinforcing our links with the local community.

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 of 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 prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE.

We encourage children to research and discover differences and similarities between our European neighbours and us. Likewise we use opportunities such as the Olympics and World Cup to study and learn about life and culture in countries such as Brazil.

Our curriculum at Fairfield embodies the core values at an appropriate level for the age group of the children – please see individual year group plans for further details.