

BRITISH VALUES

The DfE have recently reinforced the 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.”*

The Government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy and these values have been reiterated throughout our school.

Democracy

Children have many opportunities for their voices to be heard. The school has an active School Council. Two children from each year group are voted onto the School Council by the children each year. The School Council meet once a month to discuss school and community issues. The children then feedback any decisions to the class.

Each child belongs to one of four Houses; Watermead, Bradgate, Abbey and Victoria, based upon the parks in Leicester. The school has monthly House meetings which are led by the children on a variety of topics. These discussions are then fed back to staff and have a direct impact on the children's education.

The Rule of Law

The importance of Laws, whether they are ones which govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout the school day and curriculum. 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. Class rules are discussed and signed by the children.

Laws regarding internet safety and etiquette are discussed and taught to the children. Class rules are discussed and devised with the children at the beginning of each academic year.

Individual Liberty

Within school, pupils 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 young pupils to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and empowering education. 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. Within the limits of school life children are encouraged to make choices. We embed these values through the whole ethos of the school, so that they become part of our way of life. Weekly Achievement Assemblies celebrate that every individual is valued for their own skills and talents.

Mutual Respect

Respect for every individual is one of our central school aims and children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community are expected to treat each other with respect, consideration and courtesy.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

St Michael and All Angels is a Church of England School which promotes Christian Values. However, tolerance for all people whatever their faith, belief or lifestyle is actively promoted. Our RE and PSHE teaching reinforce this. Children visit places of worship that are important to different faiths and take part in activities from different religions and cultures.

At St Michaels we will challenge pupils, staff or parents who express opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views.