



PROMOTING BRITISH VALUES

Promoting British Values at Archbishop Courtenay Primary School

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 were reiterated by the Prime Minister in 2014. At Archbishop Courtenay Primary School these values along with our distinctive Christian values are central to our educational experience and ethos.

Democracy:

Democracy is well evident within the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council and pupil questionnaires. The elections of School Council members are based upon pupils' votes and pupils' views are fed into the school's improvement plan.

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 local authorities such as the local magistrates and safety in action from KCC Service are regular parts of our calendar and 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. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and empowering education. 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 assemblies and workshops and core values lessons in RE.

Mutual respect:

Respect is at the core of our Christian school ethos and is expected of all pupils and staff alike. The school promotes respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning environments. In line with our commitment to democracy, students at Archbishop Courtenay are always able to voice their opinions and we foster an environment where students are safe to disagree with each other. Mutual respect is embraced throughout the curriculum from the concept of 'fair play' in PE as well as the way we conduct ourselves as we move around the school.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

This is achieved through equipping pupils with the ability to understand their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving the opportunities to experience such diversity within the school community. Students are actively encouraged to share their own faith and beliefs within the school.

The Religious Studies curriculum, which is compulsory for all pupils, provides a broad and balanced education on a range of faiths, religions and cultures. Different cultures and beliefs are explored across the curriculum.

Archbishop Courtenay Primary School strives endlessly to ensure that its pupils leave with the strongest foundation of Christian and British values upon which to build a successful life and make a successful contribution to our Society.