



Priory School Celebrates British Values

The Department for Education 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 by the Prime Minister this year. At Priory School values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy

Democracy is fundamental within the school. Children have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council and student questionnaires. The election of School Council reps are based solely on student votes.

The Rule of Law

The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced through the curriculum, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. Children 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.

Individual Liberty

Within school, children 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 children to make choices. Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to do this safely through E-Safety initiatives and PSHE lessons.

Mutual Respect

The school ethos and behaviour policy has revolved around core values such as ‘Respect’, and children have been part of discussions and assemblies related to what this means and how it is should be shown. Posters around the school promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom rules as well as the behaviour policy.

Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

This is achieved through enhancing children’s understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in various lessons. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance the learning with classes and the school

Priory School is aware of and adheres to the Department for Education’s document [‘Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools’](#).