



Promoting British Values at Welwyn St Mary's Primary School.



The DfE have recently published guidance on promoting British values in school to ensure young people are prepared for modern life.

All schools have a duty to '*actively promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.*'

At Welwyn St Mary's these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy

1. We have a Student Council which meets weekly to discuss issues raised in class council meetings. Every council member is voted in by their class. The Council is genuinely able to effect change in school. They propose and vote for motions.
2. Each child is a member of one of four houses in school; Saxons, Vikings, Romans and Normans. Every year children are elected to the positions of captain and vice-captain. They are representatives for and represent their house members.
3. Members of year six act as peer mediators. They receive training on how to mediate with children who may be experiencing difficulties in the playground. The values promoted are respect and truthfulness.
4. Green Group ensures that the school is as environmentally friendly as possible. Each class votes for their green group member.
5. Democracy is explored in lessons such as history, literacy and PSHCE. Children also have access to First News - a weekly newspaper which explores free speech and democracy.

The Rule of Law

The school follows a Green Behaviour Policy. Children are made aware of the rules of the school from an early age. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when

laws are broken. Our children accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative and understand how they can respond positively to the school community. Pupils have the opportunity to contribute to school life by becoming a member of the following groups:

- Yellow Banders
- K Club
- Sport Leaders
- Peer Mediators
- Student Council

Individual Liberty

Pupils are actively encouraged to make their own choices whilst in a safe and supportive environment. We deliver an 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 eSafety and PSHE lessons. We ensure that pupils have a voice that is listened to through our School Council and Circle Time. Pupils are given the freedom to make choices through choice of challenge or participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities. Children are also involved in their own target setting and complete a yearly school questionnaire.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is at the heart of our Christian values and is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our behaviour policy. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect. Respect is further explored through our assembly themes, PSHCE, RE and peer mediation.

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. Assemblies and

discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE.

Welwyn St Mary's explores four world religions in Religious Education, alongside Christianity. Members of different faiths and religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school.