



British Values Statement

Walmley Junior School has a long tradition of promoting British Values across the curriculum, as part of the daily life of our school. Respect, democracy, and liberty are integral to our vision and ethos. These values are taught explicitly in the curriculum through Personal, Social, Health and Emotional (PSHE) and Religious Education and through a broad and balanced curriculum, including opportunities to explore and develop these principles and are reflected in our Walmley Junior School Values, in particular: respect, kindness, generosity and politeness.

Walmley Junior School takes opportunities to regularly promote British Values through acts of collective worship, merit assembly, and through whole school systems and structures.

Below are just a few examples of how British Values are promoted and regularly reinforced:

Democracy

Children at Walmley Junior School have many opportunities to have their voices heard. We have a School Council which meets regularly to discuss issues raised in classes. Councillors apply and are elected from Year 6 pupils at the start of the new school year and each class in school has a dedicated member of the council to consult and represent their views in council meetings. Councillors nominate children from their class to receive a merit for representing/upholding Walmley Junior School Values. The Council has its own budget and is able to genuinely affect change in the school, for example the introduction of new playtime equipment. We also have an active Eco- Council made up of children from all four year groups, who have been democratically elected. All children in Year 6 visit the Houses of Parliament to see home of British government and undertake workshops to gain a deeper understanding of our democratic system. The views and opinions of Walmley Junior children are actively sought through 'Pupil Voice' focus groups and on an individual basis, by governors, the Senior Leadership Team. Any issues which do arise are acted upon.

The Rule of Law

The importance of rules and laws, whether they be those that govern the class, school or the country are consistently reinforced throughout the regular school day. Pupils are taught the value and reason behind the laws that govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service and educational visits e.g. Safeside, help reinforce this message. Our system of behaviour is aligned to an agreed set of values. Should it arise, children are asked to identify which value they have not considered, to ensure that a connection is made and understood. To encourage and promote good behaviour, attitude and work, we have a reward system which is followed throughout school. Merit assemblies celebrate individual achievement both inside and outside school. Good behaviour is celebrated as a whole school in 'Good to be Green' assemblies at the end of every half term.

Individual Liberty

Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices at our school, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment and have equal opportunity irrespective of gender, race or faith. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for our children to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and an exciting curriculum. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to do this safely; for example through our E-Safety and PHSE teaching. Pupils are given the freedom to make choices, whether it is through choice of learning challenge, of how to record learning, or participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs.

Mutual Respect and Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Mutual respect is an integral part of our Walmley Values and is modeled by staff and pupils alike. Children learn that their behaviour has an effect on their own school experience and those of others.

Children are encouraged to understand that some people in our society are not as fortunate others. Children are encouraged to help others through a variety of charity fundraising events.

Walmley Junior School serves an area which is culturally diverse and we are proud to promote and celebrate our different beliefs and backgrounds. For example a large display in the school foyer maps the cultural heritage of the families and friends of children in our school. Pupils understanding and respect for different faiths and beliefs is developed in Religious Education, educational visits to places of worship important to different faiths, PSHE, whole school assemblies which promote diversity either directly or through the inclusion of stories and celebrations from a variety of faiths and cultures and lessons such as geography, art and music where children consider cultures from other parts of the world. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school.

As well as actively promoting British Values, the opposite also applies; we would actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British values, including 'extremist views'.