



Promoting British values at Birchfield Primary School

The DfE wants every school 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.'

Our school vision is that *we will aim for excellence in all we do to ensure that our children thrive academically, personally and socially in order for them to become successful citizens of the future.* This vision, alongside our school values and our curriculum demonstrate how the British values underpin the culture, ethos and aims of our school.

The Birchfield Values: Determination – Respect – Curiosity – Ambition – Resilience – Empathy

A key part of our plan for education is to ensure that pupils leave Birchfield with the knowledge, understanding and emotional intelligence that will allow them to flourish and play a positive and active role in our diverse society.

To do this we will:

- Develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self- confidence
- Develop their understanding of right from wrong and to respect the rules of the school and the laws of Britain
- Encourage pupils to accept responsibility for their behaviours, show initiative and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of others
- Promote tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling pupils to acquire an appreciation and respect for their own and other cultures
- Teach children about the protected characteristics in order that they learn to respect others, celebrate diversity and recognise prejudice and discrimination
- Teach pupils to respect other people, animals and the world around them
- Teach pupils to understand and respect democratic processes

As a school we promote British values in a number of ways:

Democracy:

Pupil voice is very important at Birchfield. Pupils are asked for their opinions and suggestions, and how they feel about their learning and school life. Within school, pupils have roles of responsibility. Head pupils and school prefects are selected through a democratic process and these pupils make a valuable contribution to the development of the school. The understanding of democracy as a concept is taught through our curriculum, particularly through the areas of Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) and history.

The Rule of Law:

Throughout their time at school, pupils develop their understanding of what is right and what is wrong. We have school values and associated rules and expectations that pupils know, understand, and follow. Pupils understand why rules are important and how to demonstrate the values through their behaviours and their words. Through daily school life, and explicitly in PSHE lessons, pupils develop their understanding of actions, responsibilities and consequences.

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. Learning about a wide range of different religions in Religious Education and learning about protected characteristics in PSHE offer these opportunities and also support in

discussions around the issue of prejudice. A broad and balanced curriculum planned to develop curiosity and enquiry supports children to learn about their place in the world and the significant lives of others.

Mutual Respect

Relationships at Birchfield are strong, supportive and collaborative with respect being a core value. Bullying is not tolerated, and pupils are taught about the different types of bullying, why they might occur and discuss possible strategies for dealing with incidents should they witness any. In the early years, children begin to develop their understanding of others within the areas of 'Understanding the World' and 'Personal, Social and Emotional Development'. Discussions, assemblies, team games in Physical Education and PSHE lessons across the school all help to reinforce the expectations we share.

Individual Liberty:

We wholeheartedly support the aims enshrined in the UNICEF Rights of the Child and promote these through the PSHE curriculum and the work of the whole school team as well as those working in a pastoral role.

Within School, pupils are actively encouraged to develop a sense of enquiry and a sense of self 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 and with respect towards others.

Collective Worship:

Collective worship is focused on our school values which sit hand in hand with the British Values and allow time for thoughtful reflection. Pupils learn the importance of being kind, empathetic and of respecting others indiscriminately. Assemblies including those specifically focused on aspects of safeguarding support pupils in understanding rules for keeping themselves and others safe.