

WEST TOWN LANE ACADEMY

WHERE LEARNING IS AN ADVENTURE



BRITISH VALUES

At West Town Lane Academy we uphold and teach pupils about British Values, which are defined as:

- Democracy
- Rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

These values are taught explicitly through Personal, Social, Health and Emotional (PSHE), and Religious Education (RE). We also teach British Values through planning and delivering a broad and balanced curriculum.

The school takes opportunities to promote British Values through daily assemblies and whole school systems and structures such as electing and running successful School Council and Rights Action Groups. We also promote British values through ensuring that our curriculum planning and delivery includes real opportunities for exploring these values.

At West Town Lane Academy, these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy:

Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council/Rights Action Group. The elections of representatives for these groups are based on pupil votes, which are carried out in a mock election style, complete with ballot boxes.

These groups meet with other local school councils/RAG groups in order to discuss local community issues.

We encourage pupils to be involved in decision-making processes, and ensure that they are listened to, for example via our Children's Questionnaire and during interviews for all new members of staff.

The Rule of Law:

The importance of laws and rules, whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are reinforced consistently. As we are a Level 2 UNICEF Rights Respecting School our Behaviour Policy is based upon the United Nations Conventions of the Rights of the Child. Throughout the year children learn about and discuss people's rights. Class charters are produced in class at the beginning of the academic year based upon rights. Both children and staff are required to sign up to this agreed charter. This helps to promote excellent behaviour within their class and the whole school. This supports a more restorative approach, and gives pupils greater responsibility for their own behaviour. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, and that they govern and protect us. Visits from authorities such as the PSCOs, police, fire service etc. are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce these messages.

To encourage and promote good behaviour, attitude and work, we have devised a

reward system which is consistently followed throughout the school.

We are committed to praising children's efforts. We endeavour to praise the children informally, individually, during group work, in front of the whole class and the whole school. Children are rewarded not only for achievement in curriculum areas, but also for behaviour with 'Gold Certificates' and 'Responsible Pupil Awards'. Rewards are also given in the form of stickers and team points. Children's achievements are recognised during Celebration Assemblies.

Individual Liberty:

Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices at our school, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we provide boundaries for our children to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and planned curriculum. 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 teaching.

Pupils are given the freedom to make choices, e.g. signing up for extra-curricular clubs and activities.

School assemblies make regular reference to the Rights of the Child; pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their behaviour, as well as knowing their rights. There is a strong anti-bullying culture in the school.

Mutual Respect:

Our school ethos and behaviour policy are based around the values of 'respect' and 'responsibility', and these values determine how we live as a community at West town Lane Academy.

Prejudicial and discriminatory behaviour is challenged, and discussion about differences is encouraged - differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, gender and differences of family situations.

Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

Through our curriculum, we help pupils to acquire an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other cultures and ways of life. This includes visitors to school, as well as school trips and visits.

We use opportunities such as the Olympics and World Cup to study and learn about life and culture in other countries.

We enjoy a range of visitors from different faiths and beliefs to our assemblies.

