

## Promoting British Values at Badgerbrook Primary School



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
- Mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs
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The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. These values have been reiterated by the Prime Minister. At Badgerbrook Primary School, British values are regularly reinforced in a variety of ways.

### Democracy

Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council. It promotes the democratic process, fosters the concept and application of freedom of speech and group action to address needs and concerns. The election of a School Councillor from each class is organised through pupil vote from each year group for those pupils who wish to stand to represent their class.

### At Badgerbrook we aim to:

- ✓ Include in the curriculum information and opportunities to learn about the parliamentary and democratic system in Britain
- ✓ Provide pupils with a broad general knowledge of, and promote respect for, British institutions
- ✓ Teach pupils how they can influence decision-making through the democratic process in school and ensure they are listened to
- ✓ Explain the advantages and disadvantages of democracy and how it works in Britain
- ✓ Develop children's ability to learn how to argue and defend points of view
- ✓ Help pupils to express their views in a variety of situations

### The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, including those governing the individual, the class and the whole school, are consistently reinforced through the school year. The children understand these laws as rules. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind British laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. They also understand that working within agreed rules brings its own rewards. At the start of each school year class teachers work with children to draw up age appropriate class rules that all class members agree to. Regular visits from local community police officers, as well as other authorities such as the Fire Service help reinforce this message.

**At Badgerbrook we aim to:**

- ✓ Ensure school rules and expectations are clear and fair
- ✓ Help pupils to distinguish right from wrong
- ✓ Help pupils understand how and where laws are made and to respect the law
- ✓ Help pupils to understand that living under the rule of law protects us as individuals

**Individual Liberty**

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to develop independence and make personal choices, knowing that they are in a safe, secure and supportive environment. We educate and provide boundaries for pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and empowering them through 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 e-safety and PHSE lessons.

**At Badgerbrook we aim to:**

- ✓ Support pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence
- ✓ Encourage pupils to take responsibility for their behaviour, as well as knowing their rights
- ✓ Challenge stereotypes
- ✓ Implement a strong anti-bullying culture

**Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs**

Respect is a core value within which our school ethos and behaviour policy are based. Through class, year group and whole school activities and discussions pupils have a good understanding of what respect means and how it is shown. Our class and school rules and our behaviour policy thoroughly reinforce this ethos. Visitors to our school eg from the local churches, also reinforce the importance of respect.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs is encouraged through our ethos of respect and through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society. We provide our pupils with opportunities to experience the cultural diversity of Leicester and Leicestershire. Within our RE curriculum we study the background and practices of a range of faiths practiced in Leicester and Leicestershire, including the Christian, Hindu, Sikh, Muslim and Jewish faiths. We take pupils to visit places of worship and provide opportunities for our children to speak with, and listen to, faith leaders.

Discussions in RE and PHSE lessons at an age appropriate level give pupils opportunities to consider the reasons for, and consequences of, religious and racial intolerance and prejudice-based bullying.

**At Badgerbrook we aim to:**

- ✓ Promote respect for individual differences
- ✓ Help pupils to acquire an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other cultures and ways of life
- ✓ Help pupils to challenge prejudice and discriminatory behaviour
- ✓ Organise visits to places of worship
- ✓ Develop links with faith communities
- ✓ Discuss differences between people, such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, gender or sexuality and differences of family situations