



Devonshire Primary Academy British Values



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Person responsible for policy: Mrs J. McGinty

Devonshire Primary Academy

Promoting Fundamental British Values

At Devonshire Primary Academy we uphold and teach pupils about British Values. The DfE 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 and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs."***

The Government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy, and these values have been reiterated this year (2014).

Democracy

Democracy is embedded within the Academy. Pupils are always listened to by adults and are taught to listen carefully and with concern to each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard. There are Academy rules to abide by and pupils discuss what their rights and responsibilities will look like. There is an emphasis on respect for self, others and the environment. Each year, the children decide upon their class rules and the rights associated with these; all pupils contribute to the drawing up of the rules.

A pupil Resilience Committee has recently been set up within the Academy. The pupils on the committee are representative of their peers and their role is to reflect the views and needs of all pupils. The committee also have an ongoing partnership with 'Headstart'. They have successfully bid for funding to improve the wellbeing of all in the Academy. In addition to the committee, there are elected peer mentors and anti-bullying ambassadors, who represent the views of all pupils.

One of the requests from pupils for this year was to have an Academy therapy dog. The Resilience Committee have been successful in securing funding for this and a new 'Devonshire Dog' will become part of the Academy community in 2020.

Children have an annual questionnaire that enables them to put forward their views about the Academy and discuss. The results of the questionnaire are fed back to the teachers and Senior Leadership Team, so that they know what issues are most important to the pupils. Elections are also held in Year 6 each year to identify the Head Boy and Head Girl.

During the time of a public General Election, children in Upper Key Stage 2 discuss and follow the process of an election. Pupils get an opportunity to experience taking part in a secret ballot. The results are then compared to that of the UK election with opportunities for discussion.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the Academy, or the country, are consistently reinforced at Devonshire. Pupils are taught from an early age the rules of the Academy and together the children have created their own school promises in which they follow. 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. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service help reinforce this message.

To encourage and promote good behaviour, attitude and work, we have devised a reward system which is consistently followed throughout the Academy. We are committed to praising children's efforts and endeavour to praise the children informally, individually, during group work, in front of the whole class and the whole Academy. Children are rewarded not only for achievement in curriculum areas, but for behaviour and general attitudes. These are awarded in Star of the Week Assemblies. Rewards are given in the form of stickers and certificates. Children's achievements are also recognised during Celebration Assemblies and parents are invited to attend, for example Year 6 end of year prize giving.

Individual Liberty

At Devonshire, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As an Academy, we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make informed choices, through a safe environment and 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 eSafety, PSHE lessons, Assemblies and lessons.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. Through PSHE sessions, assemblies and classroom discussions, children have begun to relate what the word 'Respect' means and how this is shown. All members of the Academy community treat each other with respect and this is regularly reinforced. Displays around the Academy promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our Behaviour Policy.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Devonshire Primary Academy is diverse. We actively promote diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures. This is achieved through enhancing children's understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. Religious Education lessons, PHSE lessons and assemblies led by the SLT and Blackpool Schools Youth Workers, reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others. Members of different faiths or religions and those who speak languages other than English are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the Academy. The children visit places of worship that are important to different faiths, these include the local church, Mosque, Hindu temple and Synagogue.