

Gainsborough Primary School

British Values



The DfE's non-statutory guidance about promoting British values in schools outlines the understanding and knowledge expected of pupils as a result of schools meeting the requirement 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."

At Gainsborough Primary School, we promote the core aspects of British values through Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development which is threaded through our curriculum and embedded in our school values. We recognise that these values and attitudes must be promoted by all staff so that we provide a model of the behaviour expected of pupils.

As a school community, we value and celebrate Britain's diverse heritage and value being part of Britain. In addition, through the ethos of the school and the systems in place, British values are reinforced in the following ways:

Democracy

At Gainsborough, School Council representatives, Rights Respecting Schools Ambassadors, Green Ambassadors, Reading Rangers and Peer Mediators are elected democratically. School Council representatives meet weekly to provide pupils with opportunities to raise issues, organise events and activities for the school and put forward suggestions for new initiatives. Through all areas of the curriculum and at all stages of the school, children are taught the importance of listening to others and their viewpoint, allowing children to gain a full understanding of democracy. In particular, our Campaign Curriculum encourages social action, gives our pupils a voice and allows them to make recommendations and decisions about our school, local area and the wider community. The children are very passionate about our campaign. The school focus on the development of pupil oracy supports children's effective listening and communicating. We have also deliberately included curriculum units which heighten pupils' understanding of the importance of democracy, such as Year 5: *Ancient Greeks* / Year 4: *Romans* / Year 6: *World War II*.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced at Gainsborough. Pupils are taught from an early age the rules and values of our school. We use 'Stay on Green' to reward children for good work, effort and behaviour. Equally, the consistency shown when dealing with negative behaviour ensures that all pupils learn the importance of laws, not just within school but within the community and country.

Individual Liberty

Making the right choices and being responsible for them are important principles at our school. All children have equal opportunities and are actively encouraged to make informed choices, knowing that they are in a safe and a supportive environment. We provide boundaries for pupils to do this, empowering them to make good decisions. This also incorporates understanding of how to remain safe through PSHE and Online Safety sessions. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms. Within the curriculum, units such as Year 6: *World War I*, Year 6: *Rulers and Governments*, Year 4: *The Victorians* teach children about fighting a totalitarian regime to preserve freedoms at home.

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Mutual Respect

Respect is one of our values and our pupils learn that their behaviours have an effect on their rights and those of others. Listening to others and behaving as we would want others to behave towards us are important features of everyday school life. Our curriculum reflects our commitment to celebrating diversity, respecting others and ensuring equal opportunities. We celebrate Black History throughout the Autumn term each year but are committed to ensuring that images and themes throughout the curriculum throughout the year are representative of our school community.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

At Gainsborough Primary School we actively promote diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures. Curriculum units are designed to celebrate different faiths and beliefs. This is linked to a text and linked theme. School assemblies, Religious Education lessons and PSHE lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others.

British History

Through the study of British history, pupils are taught to understand the different periods of history in a chronological order. Cross curricular topic work linked to the study of specific periods in British history underpins our notions of shared heritage, values and traditions and units of work such as Years 4: *The Victorians* celebrate the contributions of significant figures from British history, past and present.

Commitment to Charity Work

Our Campaign curriculum supports our pupils to understand the importance of participating in good causes to support charities. This reinforces that there are large numbers of people both at home and overseas who are much less fortunate than ourselves and who need and deserve our support. Charity days such as Red Nose Day, Children in Need and World Mental Health Day, Christmas Jumper Day, Odd Socks Day (Anti-Bullying), Jeans for Genes Day and collecting for Hackney Food Bank encourage the children to reflect on other people's lives and ways we can support others.

All staff at Gainsborough Primary School strive to ensure that our pupils leave with the strongest foundation of values upon which to build a successful life and make a positive contribution to our society.