

Inspire Partnership - British Values

Teaching and Promoting British Values within The Inspire Partnership

The Department for Education 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 were reiterated in 2014. At Inspire Partnership and our family of schools, British values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy within The Inspire Partnership

At the beginning of each year children affirm the school’s expectations and the rights and responsibilities associated with these. Every child and staff member take responsibility for instilling these values into the school community. The children and staff actively engage with each other to create harmonious learning environments where everyone is responsible for the high expectations through our family of schools.

Democracy is taught during assemblies and class-based PSHE sessions. Children regularly get opportunities to express their views in school through Pupil Voice interviews and questionnaires and develop a clear commitment to developing the school’s values.

Our schools all have Junior Leadership Teams (School Council) who are elected by their peers and our children understand that a place on the School Council comes with the responsibility of representing their peers’ needs and interests. We encourage our children to be leaders, there are a number of activities and responsibilities and a commitment to giving their best to school life. The Junior Leadership Team meet every half term with senior leaders in the school to discuss school improvement and issues that have been raised. The JLT each have their own budget and they are genuinely able to effect change within the school.

The Rule of Law within The Inspire Partnership

The importance of laws, whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, is consistently reinforced at our family of schools.

Pupils are taught from an early age the rules of the school through our values and rules, playground rules, classroom rules and our school values. 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.

Our children are aware of the responsibilities that come with having rights. They develop a thorough understanding of personal responsibility and develop independence in managing relationships and behaviour. We enable our children to develop the language and strategies to solve conflict and to right wrongs. Visits from authorities such as the police and fire service help to reinforce this message.

Our family of schools offer a wide range of exciting opportunities for children to be leaders in many contexts, and they understand that the rules they have created are there to keep them safe and happy in all the learning they take part in. This extends to visits and learning outside of the school, acting as ambassadors while on school trips. This level of responsibility and understanding from our children means that teachers can organise engaging and exciting school trips.

Individual Liberty within The Inspire Partnership

Our children are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a family of schools, we educate and provide boundaries, cultivating an atmosphere for our children 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. They are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our e-Safety and PSHE lessons.

Whether it is through choice of challenge, of how they record, or through participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices. From the very start of their school life children are encouraged to challenge themselves by giving them ownership of their own learning. Children have next steps shared with them, whether verbally or with feedback in books, so that they know exactly what they can do to progress. Children are excited to respond and to forward their own learning and to achieve their goals and aspirations.

Mutual Respect within The Inspire Partnership

Respect and responsibility are key values that permeate all aspects of school life in our family of schools. They are fundamental to the way we support and care for each other, for the community and for the environment.

We value the close, positive relationships between all adults and children, and see this as being key to enabling all children to access their learning, in a welcoming and safe environment. Assemblies regularly cover the theme of 'respect', and pupils have been part of discussions related to what this means and how we show it. 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. All members of the school community treat each one another with respect.

Our ethos nurtures an understanding of mutual respect and it underpins the engaging and exciting teaching and learning which happens at our schools. Pupils are part of discussions relating to what this means and how we show it. When a child does well, their achievement is displayed for everyone to learn from their positive attitude and hard work. Learning and effort are highly valued and the whole school is focused on developing a great sense of worth from this.

Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs within The Inspire Partnership

This is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by educating them through opportunities to experience different faiths and beliefs, be they similar or different to their own. Our family of schools are situated in diverse areas, leading to a rich cultural and social diversity, which is nurtured so our children can gain positive experiences from their fellow peers.