

Promoting British Values at Peter Gladwin School

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 were reiterated in 2014. At Peter Gladwin these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways. We keep an up to date audit of all such teaching and learning opportunities.

Democracy

Peter Gladwin, Children’s Right’s Pupil Voice group have been researching what children’s rights actually are. In September 2016 we began our journey of becoming a UNICEF Rights Respecting school. In January 2017 and from then, each year, the children will decide upon their class charter and the rights associated with these. All the children contribute to the drawing up of the charter. Children have many opportunities for their voices to be heard. We have 8 Pupil Voice groups, which meet regularly. **All** children at Peter Gladwin School from Y1-Y6 democratically vote for 3 of the Pupil Voice groups they would like to be a member of. They each are given one of their choices. Each Pupil Voice group leads on a mission linked to School Improvement, improving something in the community or the wider world. The Pupil Voice groups research, decide on how they can successful achieve their mission, raise money and then feedback to each other in assembly and to governors.

In 2016 the children, parent/carers, staff and governors voted for our new School values in a polling station and in the summer term children vote for the charity of their choice. We regularly ask children their views through the Safe and Well survey in November, Pupil Voice group questionnaires and through Teaching and Learning questionnaires.

The Rule of Law

The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind 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.

Individual Liberty

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and 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 our E-Safety and PSHE lessons. Children have the opportunity in some lessons to choose their learning challenge, decide on how they solve an investigation through PGS Learning Model (TASC), or participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

Mutual Respect

As a Rights Respecting School, 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 other with respect.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

At Peter Gladwin we celebrate and promote diversity with the children. Assemblies are regularly planned to address this issue either directly or through the inclusion of stories and celebrations from a variety of faiths and cultures. One of our Pupil Voice Groups this year is leading on celebrating the many cultures and languages within our school and community. Our RE, PSHE and RRSA teaching reinforce this. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. Children visit places of worship that are important to different faiths.

At Peter Gladwin we will actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views.