



Promoting British Values at Selston CE Infant & Nursery School

“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 with different faiths and beliefs.”

The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. At Selston CE Infant & Nursery School these values run through all we do, all we say and all that we are. We have chosen, rather than to merely tolerate others, to welcome and respect everyone, embracing all of our differences in culture, faith and belief.

Democracy:

Democracy underpins a lot of the work we undertake with our children. Pupil voice is a valuable part of our ethos and we are proud to ensure children’s voices are heard. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our **Circle Group Meetings, Playtime & Lunchtime Pals** and pupil questionnaires. Elections for School Playtime & Lunchtime Pal representatives are undertaken in each class and then announced in front of the whole school. During child initiated learning all children are developing their decision making skills and learning to make informed choices and take responsibility for them. Selston CE Infant & Nursery School is a caring school where children, parents and staff are always encouraged to express an opinion and are listened to. We foster an environment where children are safe to disagree with each other, ask questions and learn through discussion while remaining respectful of differences in views and in each other.

The Rule of Law:

The importance of laws, whether they are those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are reinforced throughout our daily practice. Every child at school knows the rules for acceptable behaviour and is expected to abide by those rules. The school’s behaviour philosophy has at its core the principle of **integrity** – ‘Doing the right thing, even when no-one is looking’ – and making the correct choices in life. Our children 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 are regular events and help to reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty:

Within school, children are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe, supported and nurturing environment. Parent questionnaires Autumn 2018 said **'My child feels safe in school' 100% response**. Our children are encouraged to know, understand and use their rights and personal freedoms safely through Heart Smart, E-Safety, SRE and Collective Worship SMSC themes and lessons. Whether it is through choice of challenge, of how they record work, of participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices. Our children work collaboratively, sharing equipment and engaging in good manners.

Mutual Respect:

The core values of the school are Christian therefore running through the heart of our school ethos and vision is respect for all. This is consistently and frequently discussed with the children through circle time, acts of collective worship, Heart Smart sessions and circle times. Our behaviour philosophy is based around ensuring all children respect one another and can value everyone as individuals learning that their actions can have effects on others and that it is important to care for others, listen to others and be able to get along with different children. We regularly discuss current affairs with the children enabling them to make sense of the world they live in.

Embracing and Respecting of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

Selston does not have a great diversity of cultures therefore we place a great emphasis on promoting diversity with the children. This is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity through the inclusion of stories and celebrations within the context of RE from a variety of different faiths and cultures. Members of different faiths or religions are also encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school.