

## **Promoting Fundamental British Values**

Emmanuel School approaches the promotion of fundamental British values in line with the Government's PREVENT duty. This is coupled with our Christian faith, where compassion, respect, tolerance and unconditional love of all people are foundational to what we believe. These can be summed up by:

*“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”*

**Matthew 22:36-40 New International Version (NIV)**

Jesus goes on to define ‘neighbour’ as including those of different ethnic and religious backgrounds in the ‘Parable of Good Samaritan’ **Luke 10:25-37**

And

*So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.*

**Genesis 1:27 New International Version (NIV)**

This verse formed the foundation of the concepts of equality, liberty and tolerance in British Society through the work of the philosopher John Locke.

These British Values are:

- democracy;
- individual liberty;
- the rule of law;
- mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs (also the duty to promote tolerance of those with protected characteristics under the Equalities Act 2010).

Each is defined below and placed in a school context through the use of examples. It is without question, every teacher's duty to ensure they do not undermine these as detailed in the current Teacher Standards Part Two: Personal and Professional Conduct. The school has a duty to promote these values and to actively challenge the expression of views which disagree with them.

As a school we are and have been involved in a variety of initiatives including;

- Welcome Boxes: an initiative by Upbeat Communities (a charity) aimed at welcoming refugees and asylum seekers into the city of Derby.
- Derby City Mission: children have been involved with sending food to the local food bank and supporting Storehouse, a local homeless initiative providing food for the poor of the city.

The school also has connections with a number of families working overseas .

## **Democracy**

*Democracy can be seen as a state of society characterised by equality of rights and privileges. It can also refer to our nation's electoral systems.*

In school we have promoted and are promoting the importance of democracy through a variety of ways, such as:

- The Team system;
- Our School Council – children elect representatives and take part in whole school, School Council meetings where they consider ways to improve the school and engage positively in the world around them.
- Regular engagement in national elections e.g. mock general elections and discussions about the vote to leave the EU.
- Where possible class decisions may be reached by voting. Teachers will discuss with children how this may not mean everyone gets what they want but will ensure that democracy is upheld.

## **Individual Liberty**

*Individual liberty suggests the free exercise of rights generally seen as outside of Government control.*

In school we promote the importance of individual liberty through such things as:

- The increasing liberty and responsibility afforded to the children as they move up through the school;
- The children are encouraged to voice their views in lessons in a formative manner and to think for themselves;
- The importance of liberty is highlighted in teaching of such topics as Literacy where e.g. topics such as slavery were studied in “Henry’s Freedom Box” and in other topics such as History, PHSE and daily assemblies;
- Children are taught about their right to be safe; including e-safety;
- Children are encouraged to take opportunities to follow their own interests in art, music, sport etc.;
- Children are rewarded for times when they take initiatives which help others and the school in general.

## **Rule of Law**

*All people and institutions are subject to and accountable to law that is fairly applied and enforced.*

In school we promote the importance of the rule of law through such things as:

- There is shared classroom code of practice for teachers and children (PSHE);
- Accountability is stressed to everyone including staff, children and the school Proprietors/Governors;
- Classroom behaviour expectations at the beginning of an academic year are written with the children and include the issues that are important to them;
- We have high expectations of pupil conduct and this is reflected in our Behaviour Policy;
- In History, the role of law is debated in regards to the choices people make and the consequences people face when the rule of law is not adhered to.

## **Mutual Respect**

*The proper regard for an individual's dignity, which is reciprocated.*

In school we promote the importance of mutual respect through such things as:

- Promoting tolerance of those with protected characteristics under the Equalities Act (2010)

and challenging any expression of intolerance;

- Classroom code of practice;
- Ethos and values of the school;
- Clear guidance on good behaviour;
- Team assemblies develop cooperation and empathy; working together with others of a different age;
- Through all Primary activities children are encouraged to 'Love your neighbour as yourself' and so are taught about the importance of respecting the views of others;
- Children are supported to develop a strong sense of knowing right from wrong and doing the right thing even though it is difficult at times.

### **Acceptance of those with different faiths and beliefs**

In school we promote the importance of acceptance of those with different or no faith and beliefs through such things as:

- As a Christian school, assemblies and lessons including times of worship and prayer and celebrating Christian Festivals;
- As a school that welcomes all faiths and none, the acceptance and tolerance of different beliefs;
- Children from different faiths being free to share their views e.g. Buddhist/Sikh children;
- Actively encouraging parents of children from other faiths to come into school and talk about their faith and festivals.