British Values in Our School

Democracy

In St. Dunstan's our children have many opportunities to give their views through pupil voice activities, which may be questionnaires or group discussions. The Elders in our Family system are voted for by other members of the Family. Children are asked to vote, particularly in class settings, on a variety of issues with the majority choice being agreed on. Children are provided with opportunities to debate important issues and are encouraged to promote themselves through letters or presentations for key roles in school such as Head Boy and Head Girl. Peers then have the opportunity to vote for the best person for each role.

Pupils and parents are listened to when they have issues or suggestions and children are encouraged to think about the choices they make with regard to behaviour and the consequences of their choices.

Staff are encouraged to take part in discussions about improvements to the school in staff meetings and Leadership and Key Phase meetings.

Democratic ideas are explored in subjects such as History and Philosophy and visits with key people such as PCSOs and local councillors are encouraged.

The Rule of Law

All children in our school know the class and school rules and understand the key elements of the school's behaviour policy, including rewards and sanctions. Each class has their own behaviour targets and children are also encouraged to think about their own behaviour using questions such as: What would Jesus do? Older children such as prefects monitor the behaviour of others.

Children are encouraged to consider safety rules and their consequences with visits from the Fire Service and PCSOs. They are taught rules for remaining safe during PE lessons as well as extra curricular lessons and the need to follow rules and respect decisions during sports tournaments. Discussions about right and wrong, moral dilemmas and the development of the Rule of Law in Britain are encouraged in subjects such as RE, English and History. We highlight the rules of the Church, given by God, in the form of The Ten Commandments.

Mutual Respect

Children are encouraged to use good manners at all times and these are modelled by all staff.

Children are expected to value everybody and their opinions and, on occasions where this does not happen, issues are tackled promptly. The school has a clear anti-bullying policy.

Our assemblies in school focus on kindness and consideration for others as we are all part of God's family and created in the image of God. The school encourages fundraising for charity including CAFOD and, more locally, the Lalley Centre. We collect food and other items for local families in need. Children were encouraged to consider Fairtrade as part of Fairtrade Fortnight. We celebrate the variety within our community during A Different Day and Africa Day as well as during Multi Faith Week.

Individual Liberty

Children at our school are encouraged to be independent in their learning. This could be through child initiated learning within continuous provision, choice of resources to assist their learning, peer and self assessment, the use of success criteria or opportunities to address feedback from teachers for example. They are encouraged to give their opinion and explain their thinking.

Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Religious Education in our school provides pupils with a deep understanding of their own faith as well as awareness of the faith and traditions of other religious communities as a basis for understanding them and respecting them. We study other faiths as part of Multi-Faith Week, celebrate the differences within classes of pupils with other faiths and discuss different religions and beliefs in a variety of contexts. Children are taught about Jesus' tolerance of different people in the Bible, such as the story of the Good Samaritan and are provided with examples of times Pope Francis has spoken about tolerance and respect.