

British Values at Clavering

Our School's Commitment to British Values

Introduction

At Clavering, we are committed to actively promoting the fundamental British Values as outlined by the Department for Education. These values underpin our ethos and are embedded throughout our curriculum, assemblies, and daily school life. We believe that by promoting these values, we prepare our pupils to become responsible, respectful citizens who contribute positively to modern Britain.

The Fundamental British Values

The Department for Education requires 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

How We Promote British Values

Democracy

Democracy is central to how we operate as a school community. Our pupils experience democracy through:

- School Council: Pupils from each class are elected as representatives through a democratic voting process, giving all children a voice in school decisions
- Class discussions: Regular opportunities to debate issues, express opinions, and make collective decisions
- Pupil voice surveys: Children's views are actively sought on school improvement and policies
- Mock elections: Learning about the democratic process through age-appropriate activities during local and national elections
- Decision-making opportunities: Pupils vote on class charters, rewards, and other classroom matters

The Rule of Law

We help pupils understand that rules and laws exist to protect us and that there are consequences for breaking them. This is embedded through:

- Clear behaviour policy: Consistently applied rules and consequences that children understand
- Class charters: Each class creates their own rules, understanding why rules are necessary
- Visits from authorities: Community police officers, firefighters, and other professionals explain their roles in upholding the law
- Assemblies: Regular themes exploring rules, rights, responsibilities, and consequences
- PSHE curriculum: Age-appropriate discussions about laws that keep us safe, including online safety
- Restorative practices: Understanding how to repair harm and make amends
- Individual Liberty
- Within our safe and supportive environment, we actively promote individual liberty by:
 - Freedom of choice: Pupils make choices about their learning, clubs, and activities
 - Encouraging self-expression: Through art, drama, music, writing, and our creative curriculum
 - Personal development: Supporting children to develop their unique talents and interests
 - Safeguarding education: Teaching children about their right to be safe and how to protect themselves
 - E-safety: Empowering pupils to make safe choices online
 - Growth mindset: Encouraging resilience, independence, and the confidence to try new things
 - Celebration of achievement: Recognising individual accomplishments in all areas

Mutual Respect and Tolerance

Respect and tolerance are at the heart of our school values. We promote these through:

- Inclusive ethos: All members of our community are valued equally regardless of background, belief, or identity
- RE curriculum: Learning about different faiths, beliefs, and cultures with visits to places of worship where possible
- Anti-bullying work: Zero tolerance of discrimination, including racist, homophobic, or disabilist language and behaviour
- Cultural celebrations: Marking festivals and events from different cultures and religions
- Diverse curriculum: Stories, history, and role models that reflect modern Britain's diversity
- PSHE lessons: Explicit teaching about respect, empathy, and celebrating difference
- Community links: Welcoming visitors from different backgrounds and engaging with our diverse local community
- Protected characteristics: Age-appropriate teaching about the Equality Act and protected characteristics

Monitoring and Evaluation

Our commitment to British Values is monitored through:

- Regular curriculum reviews
- School council feedback
- Pupil voice activities
- Governor visits and reports
- Parent and community engagement
- Staff training and development
- Links to SMSC Development

Promoting British Values supports our pupils' spiritual, moral, social, and cultural (SMSC) development. Through these values, children develop their sense of identity, understand right from wrong, build positive relationships, and appreciate cultural diversity.

Safeguarding and Prevent Duty

Our promotion of British Values is integral to our safeguarding responsibilities, including the Prevent Duty. We create an environment where extremist views are challenged, pupils feel safe to discuss concerns, and all members of our community are valued and respected.

British Values are not taught in isolation but are woven throughout every aspect of school life. Through our commitment to democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance, we prepare our pupils to thrive as active, compassionate citizens in modern Britain.