

## Promoting British Values at Priddy & St Lawrence's

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 have been reiterated by the Prime Minister this year.

We reinforce these values regularly and in the following ways:

### **Democracy:**

Democracy is central to the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council, and in a variety of other ways such as questionnaires and market research for fundraising events. The elections of School Council members are based solely on pupil votes. Our commitment to valuing 'pupil voice' ensures that across the school children are involved in making decisions about school life including their learning. The principal of democracy is also explored at an age appropriate level in History and Religious Studies as well as in class time and assemblies.

### **The Rule of Law:**

The importance of laws (whether to govern the class, the school, or the country) are consistently reinforced across the Federation. Pupils are taught from an early age the rules of the school. These are our Golden Rules, Playground Rules and Safety Rules. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and 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 and take risks, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms. We advise them how to exercise these safely and responsibly, for example through our E-Safety and PSHE sessions.

### **Mutual Respect:**

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy has revolved around Core Values such as 'Respect', and pupils are regularly involved in discussions related to what this means and how it is shown. This is displayed around the school to promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our behaviour policy.

### **Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:**

This is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE. Throughout the year we celebrate key religious events by involving the school in practical experiences to deepen their understanding of different faiths and beliefs, with a particular focus on how these events are celebrated in Britain.