



Vernham Dean Church of England Primary School

Promoting British Values

Our 'Promoting British Values' document has been written using guidance from Department of Education's 'Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in school' (DfE 2014), which states:

'Schools should 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.'

We promote these values through our Vision, our Christian Faith and Values, and enrichment activities. We work together as a whole school community to provide a happy, safe, secure and stimulating environment where children are motivated to learn, are valued as individuals and encouraged to achieve their full potential.

British Value	How We Promote It
<p>Democracy:</p> <p><i>UN Convention on the Rights of Children Article 12: Children have the right to say what they think should happen, when adults are making decisions that affect them, and to have their opinions taken into account</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>We have a Smart School Council where every pupil and adult is a member. The school values what everybody has to say. Pupils frequently get to vote on aspects of school life. For example, what to plant for our enterprise gardening, or which colour they wish teachers to mark their work with, and charities they wish to support</i> • <i>An election of a Junior Senior Team - JST (pupils are elected through a democratic electoral process using ballot papers, and represent pupils as part of the Senior Team decision making)</i> • <i>Encouragement of pupil volunteers to participate in making decision about which local and national charities the school will support, and how this will be carried out. For example in spring 2017, pupils chose to support the RSPCA through a cake sale, which they ran</i> • <i>Through curriculum objectives such as the legacy of Greek culture</i> • <i>Through our Health and Citizenship Curriculum (formerly PSHE)</i> • <i>During Worship children are encouraged to contribute their views and respond to the issues discussed.</i> • <i>Our Year 5/6 pupils have had a Parliament box to deepen understanding and create memorable learning experiences and introduce them to Parliament and democracy</i>

The rule of law:

UN CRC Article 19: Governments should ensure that children are properly cared for, and protect them from violence, abuse and neglect by their parents, or anyone else who looks after them

- Through our Health and Citizenship Curriculum, our pupils are taught about why and how rules and laws that protect citizens are made and enforced. For example 'Who's in Charge', 'Where Should I Cross' and 'Keeping Myself Safe'
- The school holds an annual Anti-Bullying Day to show that we are **all** working together to prevent bullying in our school and our community
- The school holds an annual Safety Day which includes the education of sun safe, Esafety and personal safety
- The school community has high expectations which operates through positive reinforcement of rewards/awards for individuals and collectively as a class (including house points). We have a Code of Conduct (displayed in all classrooms) which is set through our Behaviour Policy.
- The school's ethos offers a strong sense of morality, knowing right from wrong, and supporting children to do the right thing even when it is difficult (including classroom practice, school rules, Worship and Health and Citizenship Curriculum)
- The school invites key visitors to the school to explain to pupils about safety and the law within society (including (i) Community Officers – cyber bullying and being a law abiding citizen (ii) Fire Brigade – Road Safety and Arson Awareness (iii) South East Electricity, Police, Railway Officers – Think Safe)

Individual liberty:

UN CRC Article 31: All children have a right to relax and play, and to join in a wide range of activities

UN CRC Article 15: Children have the right to meet together and to join groups and organisations, as long as this does not stop other people from enjoying their rights

- Throughout our curriculum and Code of Conduct, our pupils are taught about personal responsibility and making choices for themselves and others which is embedded into our ethos
- Across our curriculum, assemblies/Worship and outside organisations (such as NSPCC, Fire Brigade, Police and Community Officers) our pupils are taught how to keep themselves safe (including internet safety, social media safety, road safety, fire safety)
- The school community offers a range of clubs, including art, crafts, gardening, and sport, in order for pupils to follow a range of interests
- Pupils have the opportunity to garden with staff during lunchtimes (growing times during the academic year)
- We encourage children to participate in sports tournaments with local schools
- At playtimes we have play equipment chosen by our JST which is rotated across the week. The JST have created a rota for the all-weather pitch which they chose to have non-football times

Mutual respect:

UN CRC Article 2: The Convention applies to everyone whatever their race, religion, abilities, whatever they think or say and whatever type of family they come from

UN CRC Article 30: Children have a right to learn and use the language and customs of their families, whether these are shared by the majority of people in the country or not

- The school has high expectations about pupil conduct which is reflected in all aspects of school life both in and out of the classroom
- Throughout our school ethos, pupils are taught to respect each other, to be cooperative and collaborative and support each other (including what is meant by mutual respect, and understanding pupils who have different needs) – Mutual Respect is one of our four main aspects. Stories are shared with pupils in Worship. For example, Bible stories about respect and peace making
- Pupil experience mutual respect between different groups in society though visitors to the school, Worship and Religious Education

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The school celebrates different faiths and beliefs which are promoted through our Religious Education Curriculum, including the support of our Vicar and key visitor from the local Gospel Hall. Our pupils learn about different religions, their beliefs and places of Worship</i> • <i>We support and promote local events such as Fireworks Night and the village fete and other community events to help the children feel a sense of community and give them an understanding of the culture they live in</i>
<p>Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs:</p> <p><i>UN CRC Article 14: Children have the right to think and believe what they want, and to practise their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights. Parents should guide their children on these matters</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The school has high expectations about pupil conduct which is reflected in our Code of Conduct, Behaviour Policy; these are embedded in all aspects of school life both in and out of the classroom</i> • <i>Worship (both class and whole school) celebrate significant religious festivals such as Easter, Christmas and Harvest. We use the Parish Church of St. Mary's Vernham Dean for these main services and all of the children take part. In addition the school shares stories about different faiths in Worship and Religious Education; pupils are given time to discuss these. Themes for Worship are chosen carefully to reflect the education and development of our pupils</i> • <i>The school shares a Christian Values newsletter each term with parents and local community</i>