British Values



As of September 2014, the DfE requires all schools to promote the historical and current values that underpin the national identity known as 'Being British'. As such, all schools are required to ensure that their curriculum actively promotes these fundamental British values.

British values have been defined as:

- Respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic process. (Democracy)
- Respect for the basis on which the law is made and applies in England. (The Rule of Law)
- Individual liberty, support and respect for the liberties of all within the law. (Individual Liberty)
- Mutual respect for and tolerance of different cultures, faiths and other beliefs. (Respect and Tolerance)
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At Enfield Heights Academy, our focus on our 4 key values of:

Respect; Kindness; Resilience and Bravery

supports us in promoting British Values, as there is a clear and fundamental link between them.

Below we show how we seek to actively promote the following British Values in our school:

- Democracy
- The Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect

Our Values in Action - Democracy

At Enfield Heights Academy, in support of the idea of democracy, we provide many opportunities for the children for their voices to be heard. We have a very active school council which meets regularly to discuss issues raised by classes with their school council representative.

School councillors are elected by their peers. As part of the process, candidates make a presentation to their class explaining why they want to take on the role of school councillor and how they hope to do the best that they can for the class.

At Enfield Heights Academy, the children also elect the Eco Warriors Council whose main agenda centres around caring about our planet. This directly links to one of our school drivers 'Being a force for positive change'. Our Eco Warriors are promoting sustainability and lead on Energy Sparks monitoring our gas/electricity use as a school and being eco-friendly.

The children regularly take part in pupil-voice surveys, and our Y6 children complete a questionnaire at the end of their primary education which allows them to reflect on their time at the school and to put across their views.

Through a focus on our key value of respect, important concepts related to democracy are also considered and addressed.

As part of curriculum, children often take part in debates, where they have the opportunity to share and discuss different points of view on a particular subject. Year 5 children represented Enfield Heights Academy in cross schools' debate competition. John Gilbert is an inspirational and motivational speaker who works with our Year 3,4, 5 and 6 children. He works with the children debating and discussing world events as well as developing resilience, self-confidence and ambition within our children.

At Enfield Heights Academy we have a very strong focus on learning and what it means to be an effective learner; in this way, all children are encouraged and supported in taking ownership of their own learning.

Our Values in Action - The Rule of Law

At Enfield Heights Academy, we understand that rules and laws have a very important role to play in helping us and protecting us. We have a clear and consistent behaviour management system which helps to promote positive behaviour. In turn, our focus on our 4 key values helps to encourage the building of respect for self and others in the school community.

We have school rules which help to ensure that not only do things run efficiently and smoothly, but that the school is a positive and safe place for everyone. If children make poor choices which break school rules, they are encouraged to reflect on their behaviour and have a restorative conversation with a member of staff.

In our classrooms we think about and discuss class rules which help to make the classroom a positive place for everyone.

During our RE lessons and our PSHE lessons, we spend time thinking about the idea of rules and laws and the effect that these have on individuals and on society as a whole. The children are supported in developing their understanding of right and wrong through such lessons.

A programme of assemblies centred around reinforcing key messages about the value and reasons behind laws and remind the children about expected behaviour. The assemblies are themed and focused on our values-based ethos to help to promote children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, and provide clear guidance for children on how to grow up to be the best person they can possible be in line with our school vision.

Our sporting activities during lunchtime breaks introduce the children to the idea of rules of the game, which help to ensure that the activity is safe and can be enjoyed by everyone.

Our Values in Action - Individual Liberty

At Enfield Heights Academy, children are supported and encouraged to make choices, and we work hard to ensure that they feel confident to do this through providing a safe and supportive environment. In turn, we encourage all children to develop their skills, interests and ideas by providing a broad, balanced and engaging curriculum.

Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are supported in how to exercise these safely, for example through e-safety learning, PSHE and assemblies.

Children are regularly provided with choices with regard to their learning, often related to degrees of learning challenge.

In turn, they exercise choice with regard to participation in the wide range of extra-curricular clubs that are on offer.

We present a clear anti-bullying message and work hard to create a strong anti-bullying culture. This is supported by our annual Kindness week.

Our Values in Action - Mutual Respect

At Enfield Heights Academy, we value the opportunity to celebrate our different backgrounds and beliefs.

Through a focus on our key value of Respect, we support children in ensuring that respect is shown to everyone, regardless of differences, and that it is shown to our school and wider environment. In turn, we seek to help children understand that it is acceptable to have strong beliefs and to uphold them firmly, but that it is important to understand that other people can have equally strong, differing, beliefs, which must be respected.

Through RE lesson and assemblies children are supported in developing an awareness and appreciation of other cultures and religious beliefs. Other areas of the curriculum are also used to help children develop their understanding of other cultures and religions - for instance, Geography, Art and History.

Through topic-related activities such as debating, children are helped to develop skills of listening to others and respecting their points of view, as well as being able to clearly articulate their own.

The children have the opportunity to visit different places of worship as a way of supporting their understanding of different faiths. In turn, visitors to the school (often family members) share customs related to their particular faith and beliefs, and this helps to widen children's understanding.

We have a clear anti-bullying policy at school, which promotes the key idea that all should be treated with respect by those in the school community, so that they are able to flourish in a kind, supportive and tolerant environment.