

Promoting Fundamental British Values at Newstead Primary School.

Introduction:

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 this year in *Promoting Fundamental British Values as part of SMSC in Schools, DfE November 2014.*

British Values are defined as:

- democracy
- rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect
- tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

These values are taught explicitly through Personal, Health, Social and Emotion (PHSE) and Religious Education (RE). We also teach the British Values through planning and delivering a broad and balanced curriculum.

At Newstead Primary, the above values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways.

Democracy.

Democracy is an important value to our school. We have a student council which has two representatives from each class, who are voted for at the beginning of each year by their peers. The council meets regularly with Mr Oldfield to discuss issues raised in class council meetings or in whole school assembly meetings.

The children also have the chance to vote for the ‘charity of the year’ which the school supports and the council help to decide on the fund raising activities.

The council is able to effect change within the school, recent examples are the litter campaign, road safety awareness campaign. Currently the council are working on plans to renovate the outdoor areas within the school.

Classes vote for such things as prizes relating to positive behaviour awards and have an understanding that the majority wins.

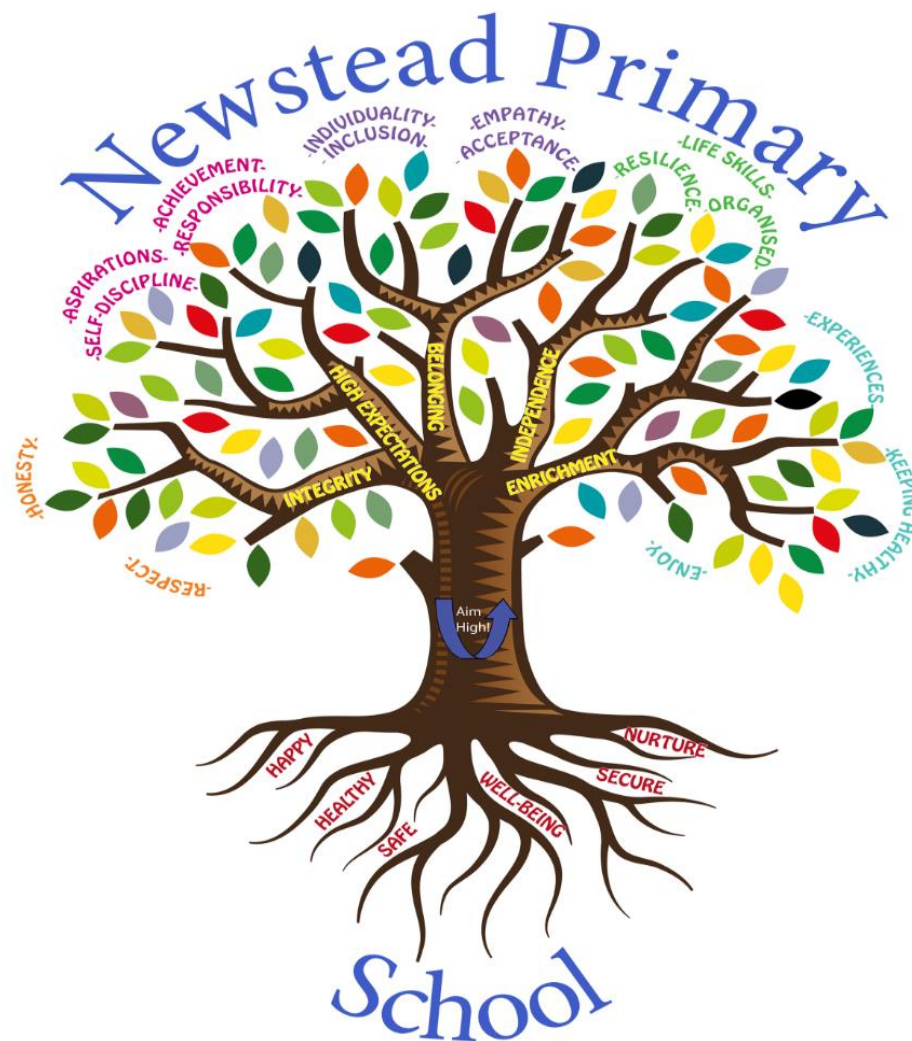
The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, whether they are those that govern the class, the school, or the country, is consistently reinforced throughout the school day, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws/rules that govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken.

Pupils at Newstead Primary School are taught from an early age the rules of our school. The rules are displayed in all classes, as are the consequences.

We are committed to praising children’s efforts. We endeavour to praise the children informally, individually, during group work, in front of the whole class and the whole school. Children are not only rewarded for achievements in curriculum areas but for behaviour and general adherence to the rules.

Through the schools 'ethos and values tree' pupils take pride in the school. This has been achieved through the embedding of our school values with a high expectation of behaviour and learning. Our pupils can articulate our school values, which is prominently displayed around the school and their targets for learning.



Individual Liberty

Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices at our school, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment.

As a school we educate and provide boundaries for pupils to make informed choices, through a safe environment and a planned curriculum.

Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our eSafety teaching and PHSE lessons.

The pupils' Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development is well developed. We encourage our pupils to achieve their very best and to broaden their education to enable them to make informed decisions later in life. Pupils can reflect on their experiences in school, demonstrating imaginative and creative approaches to their curiosity for learning. They have a well-developed understanding of right and wrong through the use of positive role models in school and they understand right and wrong choices.

Pupils are given the freedom to make choices eg, signing up for extra-curricular clubs, are becoming increasingly more involved in child-led learning through the Learning Challenge / questioned based curriculum etc.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect.

We have policies such as SEND and Equality which reinforce our commitment to valuing individuality and inclusion for all.

Assembly themes and PSHE work completed, including the SEAL curriculum, ensures children fully understand the term 'respect' and can show respect towards others.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

We actively promote diversity through our learning about different faiths and cultures.

Assemblies are planned to address either directly or through the inclusion of stories and celebrations from a variety of faiths and cultures.

Religious Education (RE) lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others.

Members of different faiths and religions are invited into school to share knowledge and to enhance learning for all age groups. Where possible, the children visit places of worship that are important to different faiths.

At Newstead Primary School we will actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values.

Being part of Britain

We value and celebrate being part of Britain. In general terms we celebrate traditions throughout the year eg, Harvest, Easter and Christmas Nativity.

We also celebrate national events such as the Queen's jubilee and the London Olympics

Further, children learn about being part of Britain from different perspectives.

Geographically they learn about their local environment and compare it with different places all around Great Britain, celebrating the diversity of people, customs and landscape.

Historically the children learn all about British history. This spans across many centuries and includes: the Viking settlers, the Tudors, The Great Fire of London, World War 2 and many more famous people, saints and inventors.