



Ditton Infant School

British Values Statement

Ditton Infant School supports the Department for Education's definition of British Values which comprises of 5 aspects:

- Democracy
- The Rule of law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

Throughout Ditton Infant School children and visitors will encounter these values on a daily basis. Caring, sharing, learning and achieving within an inclusive environment is our school mission statement and these values are also visual around the school. Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural learning is a thread that runs throughout our school curriculum and develops children's self-knowledge and self-confidence. We teach, model and promote these values alongside our characteristics of effective learning to develop qualities such as collaboration, participation and perseverance. We recognise the multi-cultural and multi-faith nature of the United Kingdom and the crucial role our school plays in actively promoting fundamental British values. Below are some examples of how we do this.

Democracy

The children are involved in the democratic process eg. voting for School Council members who will ensure that they represent the views of their class, electing playground leaders and working towards shared class rewards. The local MP Tracey Crouch has also visited the school and talked to the children about her role in parliament. The children also shape the class rules at the beginning of the academic year. These experiences give the children an understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process.

The Rule of Law

The importance of rules (in individual classes, whole school or nationally) is consistently reinforced day to day and through specific foci in school assemblies and Circle Time. Pupils are taught the value of rules and laws, that they are each responsible for adhering them and the consequences if they do not. Visits from the Community Warden and Police Officers in assemblies also help to reinforce this message. We have a clearly structured Behaviour Policy which all stakeholders understand and follow. By learning about right and wrong children gain an appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individuals and is essential for their wellbeing and safety.

Individual Liberty

Children have key roles and responsibilities within school such as playground leaders, School Council members, 'Meet and Greet representatives' and within class via a class monitor system. Throughout the school we provide clear boundaries and children are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. Child initiated learning opportunities are rich during Challenge Time. Children are taught to understand that they have the freedom to make choices eg. Participation in Massage in Schools Programme, the clubs they attend, how they challenge themselves in school and how they record their learning, and they are also taught how to make safe choices eg. through online safety lessons and PSHE/Circle Times. Throughout the school, during Philosophy for Children lessons, we provide clear boundaries where children are actively encouraged to make choices and question the world around them, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment.

Mutual Respect

Respect is a core value within our Behaviour Policy and is embedded in our Golden Rules. Throughout their time in school children learn what this means and how this is shown. Our PSHE curriculum promotes respect through units of learning such as 'Relationships' which help children to become responsible citizens. Philosophy for Children, taught discretely and within subjects, teaches our pupils to respect the views, beliefs and opinions of others even if they do not accord with their own. We expect all members of the school community and visitors to our school to treat each other with respect.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Our RE curriculum provides a broad and balanced education on a range of faiths and cultures. At Ditton Infant School there is a strong focus on Christian values and we have members of the local church and Family Trust lead assemblies. We have visitors of various faiths who share their beliefs, language and culture with our children and this enables them to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures. We also promote greetings in a variety of languages and teach children that it is important to understand and respect the beliefs and cultures of others.