

Seething and Mundham Primary School

Promoting British Values

The DfE have 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. At Seething and Mundham Primary these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy:

Democracy is rife within the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Forum and Pupil questionnaires. Pupils are taught about elections and national news regarding our government systems, relevant to their age. Our School Forum members are voted in by their peers.

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 through school assemblies. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws; they govern and protect us, the responsibility this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from and to authorities such as the Police, Fire Service, road safety etc form part of our class topics and help reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty:

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and an empowering education. 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 E-Safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it is through choice of challenge, of how they record work, of participation in our extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

Mutual Respect:

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy revolves around our 10 Core Values such as ‘Respect’, and pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies related to what this means and how it is shown. Posters around the school promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our school 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 class discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying take place and are supported by learning in RE and PSHE. Visits to a variety of places of worship, from a range of faiths, enable children to recognize that we live in a multi-cultural society and develops their understanding and appreciation of others.