



PROMOTION OF BRITISH VALUES

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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 were reiterated in 2014.

At Barnes Primary School these values are taught, reinforced and celebrated in an age appropriate way, through our broad, balanced and enriched curriculum, collective worship, our structures and systems, our commitment to the importance of pupil voice and leadership and as an intrinsic part of our ethos and values. We actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including ‘extremist’ views.

Democracy

Children, parents and staff have many opportunities for their voices to be heard. Democracy is central to how we operate. We do this through annual pupil, parent and staff questionnaires, pupil council, food focus groups, junior safety officers, voting during house events, internet safety groups and many other opportunities throughout the course of the year.

School Council

The election of the School Council members reflects our British electoral system and demonstrates democracy in action: pupils consider characteristics important for an elected representative and pupils vote in secret. The School Council meets regularly to discuss issues raised by children. Representatives are actively involved in decision making and collect the views of their peers to assist with representing pupil views. Recently the school council have been involved in the selection process of the new Headteacher, the redesigning of play space, the appointment of our school catering company and many more whole school decisions.

- KS2 pupil council meet at least half-termly
- KS1 pupil council meet at least half-termly from the Spring term

Junior citizenship programme

This has been set up for UKS2 pupils, and develops from children taking responsibility for their own actions and developing to take responsibility for community events. This has been in operation since 2018 and is incredibly well received by children and parents. The programme is split into Bronze, Silver and Gold accreditations. Further details can be found on our school website.

Pupil Parliament

The school also participates fully in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames Pupil Parliament initiative whereby Year 6 pupils ‘pitch’ for election by their year group as Pupil Parliament representatives. Each year the newly elected girl and boy spend a day at York House in Twickenham competing against the other Richmond schools in an attempt to become the Pupil Mayor and Pupil Deputy Mayor of Richmond-upon-Thames.

Junior Safety Officers

Again, in conjunction with the London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames, the school participates very fully in the programme of events designed to be carried out by Junior Safety Officers. These are pupils in Year 5 who have successfully 'pitched' and been voted into office by their year group.

The JSOs attend an initiation event in Twickenham and are tasked with a series of responsibilities, including the provision of school assemblies with a safety theme.

Curriculum

Through our curriculum, children are taught about - and are encouraged to respect - public institutions and services. There are trips, visit and visitors to develop children as responsible citizens including a trip to the magistrate's court and Richmond Park Junior Citizenship Programme. Our learning themes aim to develop global citizens and our curriculum challenges stereotypes and prejudices.

Pupil Voice

Pupil voice is valued, encouraged and celebrated. Pupils' views and opinions are sought through discussion groups, questionnaires and focus groups including

- a food focus group
- an internet safety group
- an eco-team
- playground monitors
- well-being champions
- Sparks leaders

Pupils are always listened to by adults and are taught to listen carefully and with concern to each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard. We encourage pupils to take ownership of not only their school but also of their own learning and progress. This encourages a heightened sense of both personal and social responsibility and is demonstrated on a daily basis by our pupils. Pupils are encouraged to develop their community awareness through our Junior Citizenship Programme as they work from Bronze to Gold. Children regularly organise their own event to raise money for our link school in Rwanda as well as organise clean up campaigns.

Uniformed Organisations

The school is very proud that some of its pupils choose to attend a variety of uniformed organisations in the local area such as Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, Rainbow Brownies, Brownies, Girl Guides and the Sea Scouts. We welcome members of different services to meet and talk with the children about their work.

The rule of law

The importance of laws, whether they are those that govern the class, the school, or the country, is consistently reinforced at through assemblies and our curriculum, and through high expectations demonstrated and modelled by staff and other pupils.

Pupils are taught from an early age about the expectations of the school. A positive behaviour scheme is in place within the school and pupils are encouraged to reflect on their behaviour and helped to make appropriate choices. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibility this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Community Police, police dogs and local Fire Officer help to reinforce these important messages.

In addition, Y6 pupils attend a citizenship event - incorporating all emergency services - to learn to keep themselves safe and be good citizens.

Individual liberty

We invest a lot of time in generating a positive attitude in school, so children are in a safe environment, where choices and freedoms are encouraged. In lessons we encourage children to work on the task which will challenge them, giving them more freedom to determine their own learning. We offer a range of clubs, which pupils have the freedom to choose, based on their interests. Through e-safety, philosophy and Personal Development sessions, we educate children on their rights and personal freedoms, as well as support them in recognising how to exercise these freedoms safely.

Mutual respect

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values. From the outset, our pupils learn that their behaviour can have an effect on their own rights and well-being and those of others. All members of the school community, whether they are an adult or a child, are expected to treat each other with respect. A Barnes Inclusion Alliance (BIA) consisting of parents, community members and staff has been established to champion diversity and inclusion amongst children within the Barnes Primary Community.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

We offer a culturally rich and diverse curriculum, in which all major religions are studied and respected. Parents and leaders of different faiths are welcomed to the school to share their beliefs; we also visit different places of worship.

We strongly believe that tolerance is gained through knowledge and understanding, and through our curriculum, visits, visitors and assemblies and the routines of our daily school life we strive to demonstrate tolerance and help children to become knowledgeable and understanding citizens, who can build a better Britain for the future. Each year group visits a place of religious worship as part of our Religious Education Programme.

Last reviewed: Sept 2021, June 2021 Next review: June 2023
