

# **Brackensdale Infant School**

## **Promoting British Values**

The DfE 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”*

Throughout our ethos and curriculum we promote, teach and reinforce these fundamental British values, appropriate to the stages of development of the children, in the following ways:-

### **Democracy**

All children are treated fairly and have an equal right to express their views and be listened to. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through the School Council, members of which are elected democratically by their classmates in ballots which introduce the pupils to the principal of democratic elections. School councillors may be asked to go back to their classes to discuss and vote on a particular issue.

As part of their learning, children are involved in solving problems and dilemmas. Children know their ideas are listened to.

### **Rule of Law**

The importance of laws are consistently reinforced during lessons, break-times, lunch-times and assemblies including class rules, school rules and rules that govern the country. Pupils are taught the reasons behind rules, the importance of observing rules and the consequences when rules are not adhered to.

The school's Behaviour Policy is understood by all stakeholders and is regularly reviewed.

### **Individual Liberty**

Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices within our safe and supportive environment. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, eg. through PSHE lessons, circle times and e-safety lessons.

Children are encouraged to make choices, eg. to take on leadership responsibilities in Y2, becoming a mini-leader. Children choose whether to participate in lunchtime clubs. Within some lessons, children choose how they wish to record their findings or their work, and they choose how to work co-operatively to solve tasks. Children are given choices over which roles they would like to assume in performances.

Following fundraising for outdoor play equipment, children were taken to the shops to choose which toys should be purchased.

## **Mutual Respect**

At all times the school promotes the right of all children to learn and thrive in an atmosphere of mutual respect. The school promotes respect for others and this is reinforced through class rules, school rules and our Behaviour Policy.

Children take part in discussions during Circle Time, PSHE lessons and in general learning time, when they are expected to treat the opinions and views of others with respect. The introduction of "R Time" teaches respectful behaviour towards others. Sports days, games lessons and sports clubs also reinforce the importance of mutual respect, equality and fairness.

Participation in fundraising, or awareness raising of the work of particular charities, eg, Padley Centre at Harvest time, Macmillan Cancer Support, British Heart Foundation, reinforces to all the need for mutual respect.

The Learning Powers are communicated to pupils as a means of successfully achieving learning intentions in lessons and form the basis of our good learning assemblies on Fridays.

## **Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs**

All staff are committed to developing with the children the language needed to express their views, emotions and feelings so that children are able to negotiate with their peers and resolve any disagreements in a peaceful manner.

Our RE curriculum adheres to the locally agreed syllabus for RE and provides a broad and balanced education on a range of faiths, religions and cultures.

Whole school assemblies celebrate cultural diversity. Festivals are celebrated as part of the curriculum and are also explored through stories, role play and using resources within school, including ICT.

At Brackensdale Infant School we actively challenge pupils, staff, parents or governors who express opinions contrary to fundamental British values, including extremist views.