

British Values

The British Government defined its concept of 'British Values' in the 2011 Prevent Strategy, and since 2014 the Department for Education has required 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".

At Lakeview we recognise the multi-cultural, multi-faith and ever-changing nature of the UK. We are committed to serving our community and surrounding areas. We recognise the multi-cultural, multi-faith nature of the United Kingdom and understand the crucial role our school plays in promoting these values.

Children at Lakeview will encounter these principles throughout everyday school life. In particular, our promotion of spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding is where these values are taught. Additionally, the values are taught in R.E and interwoven within our curriculum which gives children real and meaningful opportunities to explore these values. Children are enabled to develop a sense of community and begin to develop their understanding of their role and responsibilities within it.

Our whole school systems and structures lend themselves to the active promotion of British Values. For example, children take part in a democratic school council election process and elected children run a successful school council.

Democracy – Citizens influence decision making

Pupil voice is valued at Lakeview. Our pupil elected school council plays a strong role in our school. They are elected by their class peers and are involved in making the school a better place to learn. Additionally, a Head Girl and Head Boy are elected each year by the school in a democratic election process. Children also elect members for our Eco Council. We know that the formation of the school councils and the active participation of our children will sow the seeds for a more sophisticated understanding of democracy in the future.

The Rule of Law – Responsibility of an individual

Our children will encounter rules and laws throughout their entire lives. We want our pupils to understand that whether these laws govern the class, the school, the neighbourhood or the country, they are set for good reasons and must be adhered to.

This understanding of the importance of rules will be consistently reinforced through assemblies, in classes, around the school and through our curriculum. Throughout the year, we welcome visits from members of the wider community including the police, the fire brigade as well as college and 6th form pupils. Opportunities for children to take more responsibility around the school are encouraged and roles such as Librarians, Register Monitors and Play Leaders are available.

These values are reinforced in different ways. Some examples include:

- during Religious Education, when rules for particular faiths are discussed and explored.
- during other school subjects, where there is respect and appreciation for different rules such as in a sports lessons and e-safety.

Individual Liberty – Rights of an individual

We invest a great deal of time in creating a positive culture in our school, so that children are in a safe environment where choices and freedoms are encouraged and valued.

Through our Safer Internet days, we educate children on their rights and personal freedoms as well as supporting them in recognising how to exercise these freedoms safely.

Through the provision of a safe, supportive environment, we provide boundaries so that children can make choices safely; for example:

- choices about which learning challenge or activity to complete.
- choices around the participation in extra-curricular activities.
- tackling challenges for example in PE.
- children in Reception class choosing where to learn.

We also teach about individual liberty within topics such as “Fight For Your Rights”.

Mutual respect. Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs – Combatting discrimination

Mutual respect is at the core of our school life. The children learn to treat each other and staff with respect. This is evident when walking around the school and in the classrooms. Each class draws up a set of class rules or a class agreement each year and use this to set the tone for the level of respect that is expected. Throughout the year and in Anti-Bullying week, the children are taught to value differences in themselves and others and most importantly to show respect to all.

Lakeview School follows the Bedford SACRE RE agreed syllabus which ensures that all children learn about the main religions and teaches respect and understanding for the cultures, beliefs, opinions and traditions or others. Through our curriculum 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. We use opportunities such as the Olympics, the Paralympics, the Multi Faith Tour in Queens Park and assemblies to help the children study and learn about life and different religions. SMSC Events and Performances throughout the year such as Proms in the Playground and class assemblies allow children to share their learning about the wider world and breed mutual respect between all members of our school community.

Schools are subject to a duty (Section 26, Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015) to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. This duty is known as the Prevent duty. Click the links below for further information.

Department for Education: [The Prevent duty – Departmental advice for schools and childcare providers](#)

HM Government: [Revised Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales 2015](#)