

## Promoting British Values at Layston

The DfE have 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."*

The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy, and these values have been reiterated in 2014. At Layston these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

- **Democracy:**

We promote a respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic process through encouraging pupils to become involved in decision making processes and ensuring they are listened to in school. Talk circles, pupil questionnaires and use of voting to select pupils for roles and responsibilities are all examples of age and stage appropriate democracy in action. In addition pupils plan and lead collective worship. Our PHSE, Values, RE and History curricula provide opportunities for discussion, reflection and knowledge acquisition of our public institutions and services.

- **The Rule of Law:**

We promote respect for the basis on which the law is made and applies in Britain through ensuring school rules and expectations are clear and fair. Our reworked behaviour policy (Spring 2014) links 'abiding by the rules' to a reward system (rainbow rewards) achievement of which is celebrated by pupils and their families. Our work in Values Education, PHSE and RE, help pupils distinguish right from wrong. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from the police and fire service help reinforce this message. We also model approaches to restorative justice evidenced in our playground buddy system.

- **Individual Liberty:**

We promote the respect and liberties of ALL within the law. 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 children to make choices safely, through provision of a safe and nurturing environment guided by the principles of our Christian foundation. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights, personal freedoms and responsibilities and are supported in exercising these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons or use of pupil passports (a self assessment strategy). We actively seek to give children choices through the challenge and vigour of our curriculum provision including our forest school.

- **Mutual Respect:**

We promote mutual respect through our school ethos and behaviour policy which emanate from a core set of Christian Values such as Compassion, Forgiveness and Justice. All stakeholders have opportunities to reflect on these whether in Collective Worship or discussion. A different core value is examined each half term and families are sent home an activity sheet related to that value to share together at home. Values displays and reflection areas can be found in all classrooms and communal areas around the school and the promotion of mutual respect is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as in our behaviour, SEND, anti bullying and racial equality policies. Our school mission statement 'Loving to Learn, Learning to Love. For every child a chance to shine' underpins the importance of the uniqueness of each child and how they are fostered within our school community.

- **Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:**

We promote tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs through enhancing pupils understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity, for example through visiting different places of worship or a talk or demonstration by a community member. Pupils are helped to acquire an understanding of and respect for their own and others cultures through Collective Worship, Values Education, PHSE and RE teaching and learning.