



*'We can and we will'*

## Promoting British Values at Glebe

At Glebe Primary School we are proud of our very diverse pupil population. About one third of our pupils are from minority ethnic groups with approximately two thirds of the children be classified as White British. Amongst its many strengths Glebe is a school that has a real sense of harmony amongst different groups of children and incidences of conflict as a result of different racial backgrounds, country of origin or faith are very rare. This is because we teach the children, from a very young age, to respect others regardless of who they are. In this regard we are teaching a fundamental British value, that of understanding and acceptance of others.

This fundamental concept runs through the four different strands that make up the principles of promoting British values, namely:

- Values of democracy
- Rule of law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance



### *How do we teach these values?*

Most of this work is taught through our normal school curriculum. For example mutual respect and tolerance is predominantly taught through subjects such as RE and PSHE. Children are taught that Britain is a predominantly Christian country but that other faiths do exist both around the world and in modern Britain. Lessons will explore the traditions of these faiths and how similarities exist with Christianity and some of the main differences. We promote that fact that all faiths are essentially about promoting unity and a peaceful way of life. We try to teach children that some may choose to deliberately misinterpret the principles of a faith and the danger that this brings.

School assemblies are used to reinforce pupil understanding of faith and moral decisions that will face them.

The other three strands are less obvious within the curriculum. Nevertheless opportunities do exist and teachers try to utilise these opportunities. For example many of our history lessons provide opportunities to teach and discuss these strands. The principles of democracy might be taught during topic on the ancient Greeks, the Crime and Punishment unit of work is an ideal opportunity to consider the rule of law and how this has changed over time while in literacy the use of texts such as 'Journey to Jo'burg' enables pupils to consider individual liberty.

All opportunities are used to promote these values. Many are fundamental aspects of our daily provision in school. The school uses a set of values called 'The Glebe Way'. Based on our school motto of 'We can and we will' it provides the children with a clear set of expectations to ensure all in school are safe and able to do well. Those who are unable to meet these expectations are able to learn - just as in adult life - that there are resulting consequences.

#### *The Glebe Way*

- 1. We can and we will always try our best in all that we do.*
- 2. We can and we will wear our uniform with pride.*
- 3. We can and we will work together as a school community.*
- 4. We can and we will walk sensibly around the school.*
- 5. We can and we will always be polite and show our best behaviour*
- 6. We can and we will take pride in our work and be proud of what we achieve.*
- 7. We can and we will be friendly, respectful and caring to one another and our school building.*
- 8. We can and we will listen and learn.*
- 9. We can and we will always be ready for lessons with a positive attitude and the correct equipment.*
- 10. We can and we will be determined and never give up.*

Our work with service families across the school is a further opportunity to promote the values we want all children to adopt. We are very proud of our large contingent of service families. It has given us the opportunity for all children to benefit and learn more about the work of the armed forces through visits and fund raising days such as Camo Day - which we celebrate each year and coincides with Armed Forces Day.

The school has a strong house system which promotes collective responsibility and runs through all aspects of school life. Pupils are taught about the importance of making a contribution to a collective cause and again the consequences of failing to do this. House captains are voted for by their peers therefore teaching the principle of a democratic election.

Similarly we have a successful class and school council system. Again representatives are voted for by their peers and all pupils are able to put forward their ideas to help improve the school.



The school has a prefect system including a head boy and girl. We encourage children from a young age to aim for these roles when they get to Year 6. However, throughout the school, children are given the opportunity to take on roles of responsibility such as class monitors.

In the 2016/17 school year we introduced the principles of growth mindset across the school. This matches very closely some of the key tenants of British Values not least being reflective, showing determination and having a will and strength to achieve your ambitions.

The school has organised a number of themed days to promote both understanding of others and a better understanding of our own country. For example we have celebrated St George's Day and children were able to learn about key figures from the past who have helped shaped the country we now live in. Similarly we have had multi-cultural days and evenings where parents and children were able to share some of their traditions and cultures, such as food and crafts. We held a photography competition where the children were challenged to take a photograph of something which represented British Values.



We have welcomed a range of visitors to the school including our local MP (Nick Hurd) who was able to talk to the children and answer their questions about the role of Parliament, the process of electing members and issues affecting the local area such as HS2. In a similar vein children have been able to become involved in specific issues such as road safety around the school and were able to write to their local councillor who is in the process of following up their concerns.

As a school we continue to look for opportunities to actively promote British values. As our school curriculum continues to develop we will provide further opportunities to ensure young people understand the importance of respect and leave school fully prepared for life in modern Britain.