

Manor School

Promoting British Values Policy

7/1/2015

Promoting British Values at Manor School

The DFE has 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 by the Prime Minister this year (2014). At Manor School these values underpin everything we do and are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Rationale

At Manor School we believe that we need to continue to promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all pupils and the importance of endorsing British values.

The School has a strong ethos in developing British Values and the understanding of the many different faiths, races and cultures and how to deal with them effectively. By showing respect, tolerance and inclusion as well as staff modelling these values we are actively promoting fundamental British Values.

At Manor School we deliver this to the pupils through the Curriculum, Assemblies, every day interactions, PSHE and SEAL activities.

Democracy

Democracy is widespread within the school; Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard in class through enabling pupils to communicate effectively, through choice making etc. and through our Leaders Council. The elections of these pupils each year are based solely on the other children’s votes in the school which take place in a pictorial form, therefore given each class within their class group the opportunity to vote as to who they want on the Leaders Council. The Leaders Council meet each week with the Deputy Head teacher to discuss different things happening each week within the school. This group enables pupils to have a voice in order to input how best they can make things better within the school.

Throughout the school we promote communication rights that enable our pupils to understand what it means to have rights and to be able to communicate them. Our Communication Rights are displayed throughout the school and everyone adheres to these.

Through the “Connecting Classrooms” project with the British Council. Manor School has supported and developed links with a newly formed special school in

Ghana. Through this work pupils at Manor School have worked on gaining an understanding of a variety of global citizenship outlooks, including:

- having a positive sense of identity
- being open to new ideas
- having a sense of interdependence
- having a desire to make a difference
- having a commitment to rights and responsibilities

Pupils across the school have had opportunities to develop a range of skills including:

- self-awareness
- empathy
- creative thinking
- identity and belonging
- fairness and equality
- rights and responsibility
- collaborating
- communicating
- taking action

On-going projects with Woodfield Manor School in Ghana are promoting these skills. Visitors from Woodfield Manor to the UK and visits from Manor School to Ghana are enabling strong links to be formed and shared values are supporting another school to grow and provide good education for its pupils.

The Rule of Law

The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are constantly reinforced with our pupils during their time spent in school as well as when dealing with negative behaviour, circle times within the classroom and at weekly whole school and key stage assemblies.

Our pupils are taught through discussion, regular reinforcement/reminders from staff and PSHE/SEAL lessons the value and reasons behind laws and breaking rules, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when the laws/rules are broken. Classes devise individual personalised class rules which help children in their personal and social development.

We have links to the local police, fire services and Transport for London who visit the school to carry out various workshops for the children. These experiences help children develop their knowledge and understanding of British Rules and of the people who help us live safely in Britain.

Individual Liberty

Within school, a way to promote democratic engagement is through the pupil's voice. At Manor our pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school, the staff and pupils have developed a strong, supportive community. All staff ensure that they educate and provide appropriate boundaries to enable our pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Our pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised and supported in how to exercise these safely for example through our E Safety, PSHE and Citizenship lessons. Throughout their school life our pupils have the freedom to choose extra-curricular activities such as After School Clubs, Friday afternoon Excel clubs, school choir and swimming galas.

Mutual Respect

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy has revolved around Core Values such as 'Respect'. Pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies have been related to what this means and how it is shown. Posters in classroom and around the school promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom rules as well as our behaviour policy.

Tolerance of Different Faith, Beliefs and Language

At Manor School this is achieved through enhancing pupils understanding of their place in our culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices, prejudice and anti-bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE.

Our school highlights religious ceremonies, languages and respect for different languages. This is especially embraced through our assemblies, special events i.e. International Day and in our music curriculum, linking languages spoken by EAL pupils. Members of different faiths and religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and through school assemblies. Our International day especially celebrates this diversity. Our pupils also visit different places of worship and we discuss the different celebrations taking place within our community.

We at Manor believe that teaching British values has a crucial role in education, because it plays a part in raising achievement and encourages pupils to be as active as they possibly can.

Values education supports quality teaching and learning, whilst making a positive contribution to the development of a fair, just and civil society.

The values our school embraces include:

- Tolerance

- Cooperation
- Respect
- Understanding
- Responsibility

Though it does not refer to these specifically as “British”.

The school explains that teaching and learning about values takes place in the following ways:

- By teachers explaining the meaning of the value
- By pupils reflecting on the value and what it means to them and their own behaviour
- By pupils using the value to guide their own actions
- By staff modelling the value through their own behaviour
- By ensuring that values are taught implicitly through every aspect of the curriculum
- Through the work of the School Council
- By involving all staff, governors and parents in the values programme, through newsletters which explain how school and home can work together to promote positive values
- Through special celebrations shared with parents and the community