

British Values

The DfE have 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 were reiterated in 2014. We promote these values through the heart of our practice in school and through our School Vision, "Growing Together, Ready for Life".

Democracy

We at Priors Field Primary School value the process of democracy and pupil voice plays a big part in life at School. We promote the values of hard work and positive behaviour through our Congratulations Assemblies, Headteacher Awards and class 'Work to be Proud of' displays. Children in every year are leaders, championing excellent behaviour and attitudes to learning with Year 6 encouraged to be exemplary role models of this. As the eldest pupils in school Year 6 have extra privileges but also extra responsibility to provide positive leadership. Pupils in Year 6 who make an outstanding contribution to the life of the school community are awarded 'The Elaine Slater Cup' at the end of the year. Pupils volunteer for posts of responsibility e.g. Vision Detectives and Digital Defenders. They are involved in making our school a better place to learn. Pupil questionnaires and interviews are also conducted throughout the year. In this way pupils can share their ideas, thoughts and opinions. A recent child survey is informing the redevelopment of our school playground.

The views of the children are listened to and acted upon in our school and we take pride in this.

The Rule of Law

The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. Pupils have been involved in the process of developing school based laws and rules both with class charters and within the wider context of school. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws and rules, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the impact and consequence when laws and rules are broken. Throughout the year we welcome visits from members of the wider community including police, war veterans, and the fire service. Through Personal, Social and Health Education we educate all pupils about personal safety, health and hygiene, sex, relationships, drugs, alcohol, politics, equal opportunities, discrimination and the law. Online Safety is taken very seriously at Priors Field, being part of our Computing Curriculum. We hold regular Online Safety assemblies together with Online Safety meetings for parents, staff and governors to update them on current issues, emergent technologies and developments. We make pupils aware of the laws of Safe Internet use.

Individual Liberty

We invest a lot of time in creating a positive culture in our school, so children are in a safe environment where choices and freedoms are encouraged. In lessons, learning tasks often involve elements of choice. We encourage children to choose the task that will challenge them, giving them more freedom to determine their own learning. This is extended to some home learning tasks which allow pupils to pursue their own interests. We offer a range of clubs which pupils have the freedom to choose from, based on their interests and which are fully inclusive. Through our Online Safety and PSHE sessions, we educate children on their rights and personal

freedoms as well as supporting them in recognising how to remain safe. Our Behaviour Policy emphasises the Rights and Responsibilities of all people in society. It emphasises the fact that choices have consequences and that an individual is responsible for their actions and putting behaviour mistakes right. These rights and responsibilities are reiterated on residential trips in Years 5 and 6. The school encourages pupils to develop their emotional intelligence through teaching Protective Behaviours, which is a practical, down to earth approach to personal safety. It is a process that encourages self-empowerment and brings with it the skills to raise self-esteem and to help avoid being victimised. This is achieved by helping individuals to recognise and trust their intuitive feelings (Early Warning Signs) and to develop strategies for self-protection. The Protective Behaviours process encourages an adventurous approach to life that satisfies the need for fun and excitement without violence and fear.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect and understanding is at the core of our school life. The weekly newsletter and the annual school newspaper produced by the pupils themselves, highlights important community issues, such as cultural events at school and in the community, PTA events, inter-school sport competitions, evaluations of class trips, and contains reports and reflections written by the pupils. Our school actively encourages pupils to accept, understand and appreciate differences in those who are in some way different to them. Our Diversity Day developed children's understanding of diversity and tolerance for other people's lifestyles, individuality and uniqueness. In our school pupils learn and play together, with respect for each other. We appreciate each other, no matter what differences may exist. At Priors Field we firmly believe that the key to successful learning is by building a strong partnership between home, school and the local community. Students are involved in planning and running community and charitable events such as Comic Relief, Children in Need and Sport Relief. We have an active PTA which supports a variety of community events such as: Christmas and Summer Fairs, Family Hay making Picnic, Film nights, Children's Discos, Bingo nights etc. We have strong links with local schools that are strengthened by a wide range of Sporting Events organised by the Kenilworth Schools consortium. Through these activities our pupils are encouraged to mix with children from a variety of cultural backgrounds.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

At Priors Field our inclusive practice is designed to ensure all pupils are treated equitably and fairly in relation to behaviour management, rewards and sanctions and opportunities. All school policy and practice is reviewed by governors for compliance with Equality Duties. We offer a culturally rich and diverse curriculum, in which all major religions are studied and respected. Parents and leaders of different faiths are welcomed to the school to share their beliefs; Hindu and Sikh families have shared how they celebrate Diwali, Asian families have celebrated Chinese New Year with us, and the Vicar from our parish church, St. Nicholas' Church has visited school to lead Assemblies and to speak to the children about their role. We also have a good relationship with another local church whose group, 'Open the Book' involve our children in regular drama based assemblies. We celebrate Christmas, drawing on the experiences of our children who come from different ethnic backgrounds around the world. Teachers and governors strongly believe that tolerance and appreciation is gained through knowledge and understanding.

Through our curriculum, Diversity Days and the routines of our daily school life, we strive to demonstrate acceptance and help children to become knowledgeable and understanding citizens who can build a better Britain for the future. We endeavour to make the most of the things that bring us together as a diverse, unified community. Children are given a sense of the spiritual or religious aspects of life and encouraged to experience feelings of awe and wonder towards the world in which they live. Religious education is taught through our topic approach as well as in

separate RE lessons and through assemblies. We enable our children to develop an understanding of the nature of religion, its beliefs and practices. RE is taught according to the Warwickshire Locally Agreed Syllabus. Provision is made for Collective Worship. Our daily assemblies reinforce our ethos and key values from our school vision. Through these values we celebrate cultural differences, encourage community cohesion and respect diversity. At Priors Field Primary School we will actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views.

Historical learning plays an important part within the school through linking historical themes and learning with other subjects. Children develop an understanding of Britain and the wider world's past, exploring how this has shaped the present day and defined Britain's cultural heritage. First hand experiences, themed days and visits are highly valued to support the children's understanding and experience of historical concepts, especially using our local resources of Kenilworth Castle and Shakespeare's Birthplace. These values underpin our intention to develop our children's life skills to make them healthy, happy and productive members of society. We aim to develop life-long learners.

Future Citizens

As much of our children's life is spent away from school we believe it is important to prepare our young people to make good use of their leisure time and to be able to live healthy, safe, confident and independent adult lives. We share and celebrate successes they experience outside school through Congratulations Assemblies. Teaching the fundamental skills of English lies at the very heart of our new curriculum which offers all children the chance to develop, refine and apply their understanding in a fun and engaging way across all subject areas through our half termly linked learning topics. We promote reading for pleasure through events in lessons and other some extracurricular session work. We encourage and celebrate stories from a variety of faiths and cultures. At Priors Field we are very keen to develop our children as global citizens and an excellent vehicle for this is through the teaching and learning of modern languages in Key Stage 2. We are developing innovative learning experiences for our children through the use of ICT which has allowed them to develop links with other language learners in Austria and Italy through links with the British Council and letter exchanges. We believe that the Arts play a valuable role in the curriculum allowing children to explore and express ideas and feelings in visual form. Music, Drama, Dance and Visual Art promotes a sense of enquiry, self-confidence and judgement in children, whilst nurturing the imagination, developing a sense of identity and a respect for the world around them. The contribution to art made by different cultures is celebrated, for example African and Asian art forms, as well as Western and British Artists. Peripatetic tuition is offered across a range of instruments and the music curriculum promotes a knowledge of and appreciation for world music. Our DT curriculum promotes an understanding of healthy living and knowledge of food and drink from different countries. We provide extensive curriculum enrichment activities that include visits into the wider community of Kenilworth and the contrasting locality of Coventry, such as visits to St John's Museum, Kenilworth Castle, Compton Verney, St Nicholas' Church, Cadbury World, West Midlands Safari Park and Wales and Whitby through residential visits in Year 5 and 6.

At Priors Field we learn and achieve together within a safe, respectful and welcoming community. Our children's spiritual and moral development is strengthened by our values, giving them the confidence needed to move onto the wider world. We believe that our school culture plays an important role in upholding British Values within our community.