

TEACHING BRITISH VALUES

Promoting British Values at Ash Cartwright & Kelsey CEP School

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 this year (2014). At Ash Cartwright & Kelsey CEP School we have adopted four key Christian values – respect, forgiveness, compassion and friendship. These key values are fundamental to all we do and promoted throughout all aspects of school life. They are also closely linked to the British values defined in the Prevent Strategy. British values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy

Each year the children decide upon their class rules and sign to uphold them. All the children contribute to the drawing up of the class rules. We have a school council which meets regularly to discuss issues raised by other children. The council is genuinely able to effect change within the school. Every child on the school council is voted in by their class and members of the council elect a chair.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced at Ash Cartwright & Kelsey CEP School. Pupils are taught from an early age the rules of the school. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service help reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty

At Ash Cartwright & Kelsey CEP 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 young pupils to make informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our eSafety and PSHE lessons.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Ash Cartwright & Kelsey CEP School is a Church of England Aided school. We believe that knowing about other faiths and the beliefs held by those who follow that faith is important if mutual respect is to be created and maintained. Religious Education lessons enable the children to learn about major world faiths. This helps us to equip children with the knowledge they need to appreciate and have regard for the beliefs of others. PSHE lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect in the children’s lives in school and beyond.