

British Values

At Sywell CEVA Primary School we believe that it is essential to teach pupils about British Values. These are given as:

- ❖ **democracy**
- ❖ **rule of law**
- ❖ **individual liberty**
- ❖ **mutual respect**
- ❖ **tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs**

Democracy

Democracy plays an important role within our school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard in a variety of situations.

- We have an active school council who are voted in by their peers. The representatives of each year group listen to the needs of their fellow students and are able to voice any concerns at our regular meetings.
- The children lead school worship weekly. Once a term they plan a 'Values Worship' at our local church. This often provides opportunities for older children to mentor younger pupils.
- Pupil voice is also heard through pupil questionnaires. These are completed yearly and allow all of the students an opportunity to raise any things that are personal to them and rate areas of the school and their learning.

Rule of Law

The importance of law and justice runs centrally throughout the school day. It is important that rules are clear and consistent and that the children have a say in their development.

- Our behaviour system is based on rules and consequences which the children are fully aware of. The school rules are set and agreed by children and adults at the beginning of each year.
- Children are rewarded in a variety of ways for keeping to the school rules. They receive verbal praise and Dojo Points (which become House Points for their houses). Their achievements are recognised in our celebration worship on a Friday morning where a 'Stand Out' award is presented for pupils who have been outstanding during the week. Any member of the school community can also be nominated for the Integrity Award. This is for an individual who has truly shown the values of the school.
- When a child breaks one of the school rules, they are asked to reflect on which rule they have broken and what a better choice of behaviour might have been. They are also asked to identify one of the school values that has been affected by their actions.
- We have also had visits from the local police force to discuss, in worship, their role and to raise awareness of the dangers that the children might face.

Individual Liberty

Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices at our school, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. These include:

- choosing the level of work that they start at in Mathematics lessons and making decisions about when they need to move on so that they are challenging themselves
- making choices for open ended homework tasks
- increasing opportunities for children to choose the way they present their tasks in independent activities
- choosing from the variety of extra-curricular clubs.

Mutual Respect

Our school aims and vision are based around the core Christian values of "Hope", "Tolerance", "Trust", "Respect", "Honesty" and "Compassion". These values are central to our school and can be seen and felt in every aspect of the school day and throughout the curriculum.

- Respect is shown between parents, staff and children.
- The children feel that the adults listen to them and that they are involved in some of the decisions that are made (Pupil Questionnaire 2017).

- Collective worship is based on Christian Values and Teachings and these are central to our life at school. These values are also discussed in lessons throughout the curriculum.
- The way in which staff treat the children and each other models the values to the children, which the children then learn from.

Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Our school is predominantly White British and we work hard to ensure the children understand they live in a culturally diverse society. There are many ways that this is achieved:

- Some topics within our new curriculum are based on different countries which has enhanced the children's understanding of life outside the school.
- Children learn about other religions in RE. They are taught to respect other faiths and to the enjoy finding similarities and differences between faiths.
- We visit places of worship from other religions (e.g. Mosque, Mandir, Synagogue)
- We have been involved in partner work with St. James CEVA Primary School in Northampton. This school has a very rich cultural diversity and our children have been able to visit and work alongside pupils at the school. We hope to run a further project this year with a different school.