



BRITISH VALUES AT PRIESTSIC PRIMARY

The Department for Education states that there is a 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”.

“We want every school to promote the basic British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs.” Lord Nash

The Department for Education defines British Values as follows:

- *Respect for democracy and support or participation in the democratic process*
- *Respect for the basis on which the law is made and applies in England*
- *Support for equality of opportunity for all*
- *Support and respect for the liberties of all within the law*
- *Respect for and tolerance of different faiths and religious and other beliefs*

We ensure that the fundamental British Values are introduced, discussed and lived out through the ethos and work of the school. All curriculum areas provide a vehicle for furthering understanding of these concepts and, in particular, RE, PSHRE and Assemblies provide opportunities to deepen and develop understanding. We encourage our children to be creative, unique, open-minded and independent individuals, respectful of themselves and of others in our school, our local community and the wider world. We aim to nurture our children on their journey through life so they can grow into safe, caring, democratic, responsible and tolerant adults who make a positive difference to British Society and to the world. At Priestsic Primary School, we value the diversity of the backgrounds of all pupils, families and the wider school community and strongly believe in upholding British values through all aspects of our school provision.

At Priestsic Primary School, we uphold and actively promote the British values throughout our curriculum as we believe it is imperative to ensure children become valuable and fully rounded members of society who treat others with respect and leave school fully prepared for life in modern Britain.

To do this our children will develop;

- An understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process
- An understanding that the freedom to hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law
- An acceptance that people having different faiths and beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated, and should not be the cause of discriminatory behaviour
- An understanding of the importance of identifying and combating discrimination

The vision statement and aims of the school clearly reflect these values, and the whole school strives to uphold them.

Vision Statement

Our school is committed to providing a safe, secure and stimulating environment. We value and promote shared personal achievement, high standards and respect for the individual. We believe that by working together we build understanding of one another and develop the self-esteem of every individual.

This vision statement represents the principles that we strive towards at Priestsic Primary School. Throughout our school we hope to show how we translate these aims into practice.

Our School Aims

Our aims stand upon three fundamental principles;

- To provide every child with the life skills to become successful learners who reach their full potential.
- To provide a safe, supportive, stimulating and inclusive environment where every child is recognised, cared for, encouraged and valued.
- Priestsic Primary will actively ensure the involvement of the whole community, particularly families, who have a vital role in supporting their children's education. This partnership will encourage healthy and positive attitudes motivating children to become life-long learners.

As a school, we value and celebrate the diverse heritages of everybody at Priestsic Primary. Alongside this, we value and celebrate being part of Britain. In general terms, this means that we celebrate traditions and customs throughout the course of the year; for example, Harvest Festival during the Autumn term and the nativity at Christmas. We also value and celebrate national focusses, examples being; Anti-Bullying Week, Mental Health Week and Safer Internet Day, with many more opportunities planned in throughout the year to collaborate with the wider community and world e.g. Children In Need.

Further to this, children learn about being part of Britain from different perspectives. Two specific examples of when we teach about being part of Britain are:

Geographically: Our rivers, coasts and seaside holiday topics ensure that children have a better understanding of what Britain is, learning more about:

- its coasts, rivers and mountains
- where Britain is in relation to the rest of Europe and other countries in the world

Historically: Key moments in British history are studied in the topics such as 'London's Burning' and significant historical figures.

Below is an indication of where we can find evidence to show that British Values are an intrinsic part of school life at Priestsic Primary School.

Value	Evidence
Democracy	<p>Children, parents and staff have many opportunities for their voices to be heard at Priestsic Primary School. Democracy is central to how we operate.</p> <p>An obvious example is our School Council. The election of the School Council members reflects our British electoral system and demonstrates democracy in action: candidates make speeches, pupils consider characteristics important for an elected representative, pupils vote in secret using ballot boxes etc. Made up of one representative from each class, the School Council meets regularly to discuss issues raised by the different classes. The council has its own budget and is able to effect change within the school; in the past, the School Council has hosted fundraising activities and helped to provide equipment for our school grounds as selected by the children. The Council are actively involved in providing teachers with feedback.</p>
The Rule of Law	<p>The importance of rules and laws, whether they be those that govern our school or our country, are referred to and reinforced often, such as in assemblies and when reflecting on behaviour choices. At the start of the school year, each class discusses the school rules and class routines, principles that are clearly understood by all and seen to be necessary to ensure that every class member is able to learn in a safe and ordered environment, these rules are displayed in each class along with the Code of Conduct of the school. These rules play a fundamental role in our behaviour sanctions and rewards and are linked to our Golden Time throughout school.</p> <p>Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves, and the consequences when laws are broken. These values are reinforced in different ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visits from authorities such as the police and fire service • Cycling Proficiency lessons enable children to understand the rules of the road and the potential dangers encountered should they break those rules. • During Religious Education, when rules for particular faiths are thought about

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During other school subjects, where there is respect and appreciation for different rules
<p>Individual Liberty</p>	<p>Our pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are taught how to exercise these safely, such as in our PSHRE lessons.</p> <p>By teaching the children how to manage and understand emotions they will be motivated and equipped to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be effective and successful learners • Make and sustain friendships • Deal with and resolve conflict evenly and fairly • Solve problems with others by themselves • Manage strong feelings such as frustration, anger or anxiety • Be able to promote calm and optimistic states that promote the achievement of goals • Recover from setbacks and persist in the face of difficulties • Work and play cooperatively • Compete fairly and win or lose with dignity and respect for all competitors • Recognise and stand up for their rights and the rights of others • Understand the value the differences and commonalities between people, respecting the rights of others to have beliefs and values different to their own. • To respect and value our world, and the things, both material and alive that exist within it. <p>Children in school are given key roles and responsibilities such as reading ambassadors, Diversity champions and Mental Health Champions.</p> <p>Through opportunities such as our extra-curricular and After school clubs, Values Time and Residential Trips, pupils are given the freedom to make safe choices.</p> <p>Children at Priestsic are encouraged to make choices knowing they are in a safe and supportive environment.</p>
<p>Mutual Respect</p>	<p>We have high expectations of achievement and behaviour. Children and staff are polite and kind. We</p>

	<p>believe everyone has their own special gifts and we are expected to use them.</p> <p>We listen and respect each other. We teach the children that conflict will be dealt with calmly and fairly. All members of the school family are valued equally. We celebrate lunch time behaviour and taking care of our school environment and celebrate each other's achievements whether that be in or out of school through our weekly Values Assemblies.</p> <p>Teachers plan exciting, interesting, challenging and innovative lessons where everybody is expected to do their best and respect others.</p>
<p>Tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs</p>	<p>Priestsic Primary are proud to promote and celebrate our different backgrounds and beliefs. Tolerance, politeness and mutual respect are at the heart of our aims, ethos and R.E curriculum. Our central aim to prepare children for the future drives us towards ensuring that our pupils are able to live and work alongside people from all backgrounds and cultures. This will be particularly necessary in a future where technological advances will make the 'world a smaller place.' Our pupils know and understand that it is expected that respect is shown to everyone and to everything, whatever differences we may have. Children learn that their behaviour choices have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community are encouraged to treat each other with respect.</p> <p>Specific examples of how we at Priestsic Primary enhance pupils' understanding and respect for different faiths and beliefs are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Through Religious Education, PSHRE and other lessons where we develop awareness and appreciation of other cultures - in English through fiction and in art and music by considering cultures from other parts of the world. •Celebrating cultural differences through assemblies, themed weeks and displays. <p>Children are encouraged to share their own experiences when celebrating their own faith. Activities within school support both children and adults of different or no faith, the children are taught respect and tolerance of these groups and the opinions of the groups are taken</p>

	into account with all activities. Whilst instances contrary to our values are relatively rare, each is treated seriously in line with our policies and expectations.
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Policy written by A Marriott - Personal Development Lead

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