

Helmshore Primary School

Promoting British Values

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 were reiterated in 2014. At Helmshore Primary School these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways. Helmshore Primary School Statement of Values We are Britain! Equality for all is central to our ethos of mutual respect and encouragement of everyone in our inclusive school community, whilst celebrating our similarities and achievements.

• We value and respect the process of democracy:

Democracy

Children have many opportunities for their voices to be heard. We have a pupil council which meets weekly to discuss issues raised in class meetings. Each class has a Pupil Council representative who is elected on a termly basis. (Class Charters, Pupil Council, Peer Assessment).

• We value and respect the rule of law:

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 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. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service help reinforce this message (Pupil Council, Class Charters, Visits from Police / Fire, Rules in other subjects – PE, Rules in different religions).

• We value and respect the freedom of every individual:

Individual Liberty

Within 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 choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and 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 E-Safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it be through choice of learning challenge, of how they record, of participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices. (Anti-Bullying Week, Safety, PGL, Expressing own views, Visit from Life Education, Freedom of Choice, First Aid Training, Bikeability – Go Velo).

• We are respectful of ourselves and others:

Mutual Respect

At Helmshore Primary School, 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. (Buddies, Tolerance, Jeans for Genes, Children In Need, Rossendale Hospice – Penny Pinching, Anti-Bullying work, Remembrance, Food Bank Donations).

• We value and respect different cultures, faiths and beliefs:

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Helmshore Primary School is situated in an area which is not greatly culturally diverse, therefore we place a great emphasis on promoting diversity with the children. Assemblies are planned to address this issue either directly or through the inclusion of stories and celebrations from a variety of faiths and cultures. Our RE and PSHE teaching reinforces this. (Islam Visit).

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