

British Values

Promoting British Values is not a question of photographs of 10 Downing Street or the British Prime Minister portrayed in corridors, but promoting values which we should all hold dear. Great Britain is home to the world's oldest democracy; it is also a multicultural country of many faiths and beliefs. This is a crucial point in our nation's history and it is understandable therefore, that schools should have an obligation to reinforce our values. Fair play, respect for others, protection of vulnerable and less fortunate and free speech must be an inherent part of any school or public body.

At Woodsetton School British values are actively promoted. The school council meets regularly where pupils, elected by their peers, have an opportunity to discuss issues important to them and to offer suggestions to improve the school.

Circle time and class reflection time also allows children to communicate about what is important to them or what is on their mind. These sessions are supported by the weekly 'Picture News' resource that encourages pupils to reflect on current news and events to promote their understanding of the world around them.

Fair play is integral to games, not only in sport, where rules are taught and reinforced, but in the playground. Staff observe and help children struggling with play so that they can get the most out of their free time. The numerous lunchtime clubs and after-school clubs also reinforce fair play practices.

The rights of children to believe and to celebrate their beliefs are an integral part of the school. The school has a curriculum that is majority Christian-based but the country and in particular the region in which we live is a multicultural one and diversity is celebrated. Major festivals are recognised and celebrated. For example, many of our transport escorts and drivers are of the Islamic faith and celebrations such as Eid are recognised by sending cards and offering good wishes showing mutual respect for each other. Diwali is celebrated each year, Black history month always has a focal point, i.e. Nelson Mandela, Benjamin Zephaniah.

These are but a few examples of what we offer in our curriculum.

A special school such as ours champions the rights of the vulnerable. All children at the school are valued for their personal strengths and abilities. Indeed, our school motto 'Every pupil matters... every moment counts' is highly visible on our literature and is displayed in classrooms and around school, so as to remind us all of our core values and aims. Nevertheless, despite the children's own needs, that does not stop the children and staff from supporting a myriad of charities and causes which can be seen on our school display and also charities webpage.

SMSC

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development is also high on the agenda at Woodsetton School and encompasses personal development in our school. It is also covered and addressed through our work in PSHE sessions in all Key Stages.

As a school we;

- Promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils
- Prepare pupils for the opportunities and responsibilities of later life

As stated under the Ofsted framework, we aim to develop our pupils understanding in the following 4 areas at their own level of understanding:

The spiritual development of pupils is shown by their:

- ability to be reflective about their own beliefs (religious or otherwise) and perspective on life
- knowledge of, and respect for, different people's faiths, feelings and values
- sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them
- use of imagination and creativity in their learning
- willingness to reflect on their experiences

The moral development of pupils is shown by their:

- ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong and to readily apply this understanding in their own lives, recognise legal boundaries and, in so doing, respect the civil and criminal law of England
- understanding of the consequences of their behaviour and actions
- interest in investigating and offering reasoned views about moral and ethical issues and ability to understand and appreciate the viewpoints of others on these issues.

The social development of pupils is shown by their:

- use of a range of social skills in different contexts, for example working and socialising with other pupils, including those from different religious, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds
- willingness to participate in a variety of communities and social settings, including by volunteering, cooperating well with others and being able to resolve conflicts effectively
- acceptance and engagement with the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs; they develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.

The cultural development of pupils is shown by their:

- understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage and that of others
- understanding and appreciation of the range of different cultures in the school and further afield as an essential element of their preparation for life in modern Britain
- ability to recognise, and value, the things we share in common across cultural, religious, ethnic and socio-economic communities
- knowledge of Britain's democratic parliamentary system and its central role in shaping our history and values, and in continuing to develop Britain

- willingness to participate in and respond positively to artistic, musical, sporting and cultural opportunities
- interest in exploring, improving understanding of and showing respect for different faiths and cultural diversity and the extent to which they understand, accept and respect diversity. This is shown by their respect and attitudes towards different religious, ethnic and socio-economic groups in the local, national and global communities

All SMSC opportunities and activities that take place in school are record in class floor books and are recorded on our whole school SMSC log.

At Woodsetton, we have also developed our own '101 Things to do at Woodsetton School'. This includes a vast list of experiences that we endeavour to ensure our children access in addition to the curriculum and learning experiences we deliver during their time with us. These activities are divided into the following areas;

- The Great Outdoors
- Food Glorious Food
- Healthy Me
- Being Creative
- Performance Time
- Out and About
- Exciting Experiences
- Sharing and Caring
- Marvellous Me
- Life Skills

These are recorded using a tracker and staff monitor which experiences pupils in classes have completed.

Pupils also complete their own 'Woodsetton Story' as they progress through their years here. Annually the same activities and documentation is competed by each child and is added to their own personal folder. Activities completed each year include;

- Recent photograph and name writing
- Current age and class
- A self portrait
- A best piece of work
- Likes and dislikes
- Friends
- Future aspirations

When pupils leave Woodsetton they are given their story and take this with them to remember their time here.

