British Values Strategy

At Todwick Primary School we actively promote British Values in order to create a respectful, welcoming environment where everyone is valued for being their wonderful selves.



We teach children that Britain has its own Core Values, that bind us all together as a country, and that make all who live here special.

- Democracy
- Rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

We strategically teach our children these values through the environment, curriculum and wider experiences.

Curriculum

Our curriculum is intentionally designed so that pupils develop a strong sense of self, but also learn to appreciate that not everyone has the same experiences, thoughts and values as you.

Children learn within KS1, what's our place in the world, comparing and contrasting the UK to India and beginning to understand the differences between towns and cities. In Lower Key stage two children develop a deeper understanding of the UK and compare this to Africa and in UKS2 children understand how inland and coastal UK compare along with a greater understanding of South America and in particular Brazil.

We intentionally study a range of influential people who are representative of our community and who embody the British Values.
Throughout our curriculum we ensure we avoid negative stereotypes, ensuring everyone is valued and empowered to be proud of their heritage.

Reading is central within our curriculum. We have intentionally chosen books to be part of our curriculum, novel time, library and reading spine that are representative of all of the cultures and families that we have in school.

Assemblies

Each week all children participate in a British Values focussed assembly. These assemblies are strategically planned to provide children with a deep knowledge and understanding of the British values and cover topics such as:

- Embracing our differences
- Community
- Police
- Respect
- Becoming responsible
- Voting and elections
- The right to have a voice
- Helping others
- Government

Our School Environment

Our school environment is intentionally a celebration of our local community and the

PSHE

Within our PSHE curriculum children learn a great deal about tolerance and the rule of law. They learn that every family is unique and every family is special, they learn how to foster caring and respectful friendships, how to have safe online relationships and how to be safe within the community. They explore the laws

surrounding safety, drugs, alcohol and sex and how the law protects us. They learn to live within the law and how to report issues of concern to the correct authorities.

RE

Respect for all faiths and beliefs is promoted in the teaching of RE as children gain a greater understanding of religious diversity and practices for those religions represented in our school, Rotherham and the UK. We teach the Rotherham agreed syllabus in RE, with an emphasis on the religions of our local community: Muslim, Christian, Hindu and Judaism.
The school has a strong relationship with our local CofE church and a Rotherham Mosque. Children visit the Mosque once in KS1 and again in KS2 to build on their understanding of a Muslim place of worship. All years groups have termly visits to our local C of E school alongside school visits from the Reverand and church community. The local church community come into school half termly to deliver 'open the book' assemblies which all children participate in. Visitors from other faiths come into school to enhance our RE offer.
The aim of RE teaching has 3 elements, ensuring that all pupils:
Know about and understand a range of religions and world views, so that they can:

- Describe, explain and analyse beliefs and practices, recognising the diversity which exists within and between communities.
- Identify, investigate and respond to questions posed by, and responses offered by some of the sources of wisdom found in religions and world views.
- Appreciate and appraise the nature, significance and impact of different ways of life and ways of expressing meaning.

Express ideas and insights about the nature, significance and impact of religions and world views, so that they can:

- Explain reasonably their ideas about how beliefs, practices and forms of expression influence individuals and communities.
- Express with increasing discernment their personal reflections and critical responses to questions and teachings about identity, diversity, meaning and value.
- Appreciate and appraise varied dimensions of religion.

Gain and deploy the skills needed to engage seriously with religions and world views, so that they can:

- Find out about and investigate key concepts and questions of belonging, meaning, purpose and truth, responding creatively.
- Enquire into what enables different communities to live together respectfully for the wellbeing of all.

- Articulate beliefs, values and commitments clearly in order to explain reasons why they may be important in their own and other people's lives.

PE

Promotion of the concept of "fair play", following and developing rules, celebrating and rewarding success, accepting defeat and participating in activities that promote cooperation with others and inclusion for all form an integral part of the PE curriculum, and our extra-curricular sporting calendar.

Breaktimes have been carefully thought through to provide opportunities for collaborative play with a range of open-ended equipment.

Pupil Discussions

As part of our oracy learning, all children from Reception to Y6 engage in a structured discussion each week. This session promotes freedom of speech and enables pupils to understand that it is ok not to agree on everything, with people with opposing viewpoints able to respectfully live in harmony alongside each other. We have strategically chosen discussion questions that support the teaching of both the school values and British Values. Each key stage has a different question to focus on that are increasingly challenging and thought provoking. Examples of these include:

	F2	Y1/2	Y3/4	Y5/6
Democracy	Which is best, cats or dogs? (which one will win?)	Is it fair if you don't win a vote?	Is a child's voice as important as an adult's voice?	Should voting be compulsory?
School Rules	Is it better to aim high in phonics or numbers?	What would happen if we didn't have school rules?	Which of the school rules are the most important?	How do the school rules relate to the laws within our society?
Mutual respect and tolerance	If it is my toy, I don't have to share it. Do we agree or disagree?	What does respect look like?	Is it ok to not to be somebodies' friend?	Self-respect v Respect for others. Which is the most important?
Rule of Law	You should do everything your friends tell you. Do we agree or disagree?	Why are rules important?	What would it be like if there were no rules?	Are there any occasions when it's ok to break the law?
Individual Liberty	I can say whatever I want. Do we agree or disagree?	Why is it good to be me?	What does individual liberty look like in school?	Should Extremist political parties be banned?

House Events

Todwick Primary School promotes democratic processes through termly pupil voice activities and a vote around 'House Events' which is set by senior leader House

Captains. Children see how they are listened to and how their actions can produce results when the processes are followed.

House Captains & School Council

In school we hold annual elections for Y6 house captains and school councillors. There is a job description for the role of the house captain and councillor and those who would like to be a candidate within the election writes a speech explaining how they will fulfil the job description and delivers it in each class. Pupils across school are then given a voting slip on which they can place their confidential vote and place it in the ballot box.

Involvement in key local and national events:

Each year Armistice Day is remembered and children are encouraged to reflect on this. All children engage in the 2-minute silence by our flag and soldier on the front of school. Y6 House Captains attend the attend the village war memorial to represent our school community.

Our DEI Champions (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) lead us in engaging in events such as Black History Month and International Women's Day.

Each week, children have a Picture News assembly and discuss a topical world issue that has been covered within the assembly, considering alternative perspectives and the impact upon the world. This would include any coverage of general elections and the implications for the nation.

We celebrate a range of religious festivals in school each year including Eid, Diwali, Christmas and Easter.