

Teaching British Values as part of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development in schools.

Promoting British Values at Stanley Grove Primary School and Nursery School

The DfE have 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 use of collective worship, a strong positive ethos and a respect of people of all faiths, races and culture means that children develop strong values and respect for themselves and others and a clear knowledge of right and wrong.

The teacher’s standards and staff code of conduct is explicitly referred to in school and staff are good role models for pupils.

Our school rules are based around our rights and responsibilities with a focus on safety, respect and learning. Golden rules have been developed by the children to show what we want our school to be like and staff and children look for examples of this around school.

The Government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy, and these values have been reiterated in the document “Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools” (Nov 2014).

At Stanley Grove, we reinforce these values regularly in the following ways:

Democracy

Each year children decide upon their class mission statement and the rights associated with these. All the children contribute to the drawing up of this which is displayed on classroom doors and is linked to our Relationships and Health Education work.

We have a student council which meets every month with the Deputy Headteacher to discuss issues raised in class council meetings. The council has its own budget and is genuinely able to effect change within the school. Every child on the student council is voted in by their class.

They work together on an enterprise scheme to raise money for their class.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school or the country are consistently reinforced at Stanley Grove.

Pupils are taught from an early age the rules of the school. The children devised our Golden Rules and these are reinforced in our assemblies. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and 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.

Individual Liberty

At Stanley Grove, 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 informed choices, through a safe environment and an 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 eSafety and our Relationships and Health Education lessons.

Mutual Respect

This is reinforced with our rights and responsibilities and the language of choice used by the staff. 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.

All children are taught they have a right to be respected, to learn and to be safe. They are taught also that they have the responsibilities to respect others, to allow others to learn and to keep everyone safe.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Stanley Grove follows the Wakefield RE syllabus which actively promotes diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures. Religious Education lessons and SEAL lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others. Members of different faiths and religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. The children visit or find out about places of worship that are important to different faiths.

We are proud of our positive ethos and the children and staff at Stanley Grove School.