

Promoting British Values at Thorpe Willoughby Primary School

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 have been reiterated by the Prime Minister this year. Thorpe Willoughby is a Rights Respecting School and British Values are enshrined in the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child. Thorpe Willoughby endorses these values and they are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

- Democracy:

Democracy is an underlying thread within the school and its curriculum.(Article 12). We have a democratically elected School Council. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council and Pupil Voice meetings held by subject leaders. Children are taught to understand the reasons and values behind decisions that are made.

- The Rule of Law:

(Article 29) 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; Fire Service; MP;JPs etc. are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message.

- Individual Liberty:

(Article 29) 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 advise how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons.(Article 31)

- Mutual Respect:

(Article 29) As a Rights Respecting School, core values such as 'Respect' underpins our school ethos and behaviour policy, and pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies related to what this means and how it is shown. We have a shared language that promotes respect for others and this is reiterated through our class charters as well as our behaviour policy.

- Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

(Article 30,31) This is achieved through enhancing pupils understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. Learning in RE, PSHCE, Assemblies and discussions involving other cultures and beliefs help to achieve this. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. Interactive displays reflect the pupil's interest.

Our link with Imwiko Primary School in Zambia is an active and dynamic way of learning about other people in other places.