



Loughton School

British Values Statement

Promoting British Values at Loughton School

At Loughton School, we prepare our children to become confident, responsible and respectful members of modern Britain. The fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance are promoted throughout school life and are deliberately woven through our curriculum, Personal Development (PD), assemblies and wider opportunities.

These principles sit naturally alongside our Loughton values of being inspired, creative, resilient, respectful and independent. We want our children not only to understand British Values, but to recognise them in the world around them and demonstrate them through their choices, relationships and actions.

Democracy

Children are taught that their opinions matter and that they have a right to be heard while also learning to listen respectfully to the views of others.

Pupils experience democracy through opportunities to participate in decision making, vote for pupil representatives and take part in mock elections. They learn how democracy works in Britain and explore how public institutions and services operate.

This understanding is developed further through our curriculum. For example, pupils:

- explore the differences between monarchy and Parliament in History;
- explore significant world leaders;
- consider how Britain has been shaped and influenced by people and the wider world.

These experiences help children to become independent thinkers who can express their views appropriately and understand how individuals can influence society.

The Rule of Law

Our school expectations of being ready, respectful and safe provide an important foundation for children's understanding of rules and why they are needed. Children learn to distinguish right from wrong, understand that actions have consequences and recognise that laws help to protect individuals.

Our curriculum gives pupils opportunities to explore these ideas in a meaningful context. For example, within History, children discuss crime and punishment, allowing them to develop their understanding of rules, consequences and justice.

We also use restorative approaches to help children resolve conflict and understand the impact their actions can have on others.

Individual Liberty

At Loughton School, we encourage our pupils to become confident, resilient and independent individuals who can make informed choices while understanding their responsibilities towards others.

Children are supported to develop self-confidence and self-esteem, take responsibility for their behaviour and understand their rights. Our curriculum challenges stereotypes and helps pupils recognise the importance of freedom and equality.

Curriculum examples include:

- exploring the impact of significant women through Heroes and Heroines;
- marking International Women's Day;

These opportunities encourage children to consider freedom, equality, identity and the contribution that individuals can make.

Mutual Respect and Tolerance

Respect is central to life at Loughton School. Children learn that people may have different beliefs, backgrounds, experiences and perspectives and that these differences should be understood and respected.

This is particularly evident within our RE curriculum. Children:

- compare beliefs with those of other faiths and people with no faith;
- discuss how we can be tolerant of one another in school;
- identify the differing beliefs of people;
- explore what respect means through their learning about Hinduism;
- respond sensitively to the experiences and feelings of others;
- explore symbols of peace and the impact that beliefs can have on individuals and communities.

Children also explore refugees through RE, while themes of respect, tolerance and courage are identified within the school's Heroes and Heroines learning.

Preparing Children for Life in Modern Britain

British Values at Loughton are therefore lived as well as taught. They are embedded within our curriculum and complemented by opportunities across the wider life of the school. The school's published approach includes stand-alone lessons alongside British Values being interwoven throughout the curriculum and wider opportunities.

British Values through meaningful curriculum contexts.

Our aim is for children to leave Loughton School inspired to make a positive contribution, creative in their thinking, resilient when faced with challenge, respectful of others and independent in the choices they make. In doing so, we prepare our pupils to participate positively in their communities and in life in modern Britain.