



British Values Statement

We actively promote positive, inclusive values. These include democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect for and acceptance of those of different faiths and beliefs. We believe British values are those values expected of anyone living in Britain, regardless of their nationality, culture or religious belief.

Our ethos reflects these values. We place great emphasis on building positive relationships in school, amongst the children themselves and between staff and children. We strongly believe that children should not merely be taught such values but that they should be embedded into school life and how we do things.

We strive to support our children to develop into confident, happy, successful young adults who have empathy towards and an understanding of others.

The information below reflects how Droxford Junior School works to promote positive values through the ethos and life of the school, for example through a broad and balanced curriculum, and through social, moral, cultural and spiritual development.

Weekly assemblies link to British values and lessons consider teaching and learning about, through and for the rights of children. We also make use of Andrew Moffatt's *Agents of Hope* themes and assemblies, wherein British values are reflected and are explicitly referenced.

Democracy

Democracy is embedded at the school. Children are always listened to by adults and are taught to listen carefully and with concern to each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard. Children have the opportunity to give their opinions and ideas through our School Council and regular pupil voice questionnaires. The elections of the School Council are based solely on pupil votes, reflecting our British electoral system and demonstrating democracy in action. Through curriculum links to Eureka projects and people (suffragette movement, Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King) there are opportunities to explore the workings at the centre of British law-making. Children also engage in 'mock debates' to learn how to argue and defend points of view. Our Wellbeing ambassadors act as representatives of peers to reflect their rights and opinions.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout our school day, through our school assemblies and also when dealing with behaviour in school. Our positive behaviour policy, which is based on the principles of restorative justice, seeks to hold children, parents and staff in partnership to build on cooperation and mutual respect. We encourage our children to distinguish right

from wrong and help them to understand that living under the rule of law protects individuals. Our children are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and consequences when laws are broken. Visits from the Police and the Fire Service also help to reinforce our messages. We welcome and invite parents to share stories of their careers or journeys to promote aspiration. Our restorative justice approach helps us to resolve conflicts. Children attend annual citizenship events which support their understanding of social responsibility and active safety awareness.

Individual Liberty

Within school, children 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 our children to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and an empowering education. We support them to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence. Our children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely; examples of this can be clearly seen in our online safety and PDL lessons and conveyed by our children who act as Cyber ambassadors. We implement a strong anti-bullying culture, one that is embedded throughout the year and curriculum and also celebrated in Anti-Bullying Week, and pride ourselves on being a listening school, where children take ownership and responsibility for their part in developing cooperative relationships.

Mutual Respect

At the heart of our whole school ethos is a commitment to a set of core attitudes that we believe contribute to individuals being able to live happy and successful lives within the communities to which they belong. Our Values are taught through assemblies and PDL sessions and form a key part of our daily dialogue across the school. Respect is deeply embedded in all that we do: pupils know and understand that it is expected and imperative that respect is shown to everyone and to everything, however big or small. Children are awarded stickers for demonstrating any of the values and these are praised through recognition boards.

Our school frequently participates in learning activities which promote mutual respect including visits to nature reserves, farms, local places of worship and many sporting events and the importance we place on our relationship with the South Downs National Park, local allotments, the outdoor curriculum and residential school journeys for all year groups. We take part in various fundraising charity events to raise awareness and respect for difference and those in need including local food banks, the NSPCC, Comic Relief and Children in Need. Regular visits and assemblies from Father Tony and visits to the local church at Easter and Christmas time encourage spiritual awareness and understanding.

In addition to these activities our children are given regular opportunities to learn within their community and beyond, each time an emphasis is placed on respecting those with whom they come into contact as well as their surroundings. A very wide range of extra-curricular clubs are offered at Droxford Junior School. These clubs provide another opportunity for mutual

respect to be fostered in attitudes and manners, both amongst those participating from their own setting, and any visiting staff or teams.

Our PDL and RE curriculum includes opportunities to link British Values, Spiritual Moral Social Cultural (SMSC) themes and school values. Our progression of curriculum skills is based on respect and welcoming difference, and is based on the *No Outsiders* text-led scheme, which has been integrated into teaching and learning. These values are developed and encouraged at playtimes and lunchtimes and throughout the school day. We support our children with a shared language around emotions through the use of the Zones of Regulation approach.

Please read this in conjunction with our Equalities statement, information and objectives which can be found on the links below via our school website:

<http://droxfordjunior.co.uk/equality-statement/>

<http://droxfordjunior.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Equality-information-and-objectives-2020.pdf>