



British Values at Alderman Cogan's CE Primary School

The Department for Education recently stated that it is necessary *“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”*.

By following our school ethos and seeking to be the best people that we can at Alderman Cogan's, we actively promote British values on a daily basis in the following ways:

Democracy

- School councillors are elected by their peers for the school council. Children who are members of the school council feel that they play an integral part planning events and improvements for our school. The council also deals with issues raised by the class councillors.
- Pupils have key roles and responsibilities within the school: monitors are elected within his/her own classroom; Digital Leaders and House Captains are democratically elected; and pupils from Year 6 take on many roles throughout the school requiring maturity and responsibility.
- The members of each school house vote on which charities they would like to support.
- Balanced arguments, debates and discussions are regularly put into practise in each classroom to support the curriculum.

Rule of Law

- Children at Alderman Cogan's recognise the importance of Law and in school this is supported on a daily basis with respect for rules in the classroom, the whole school and situations which affect the wider community. This is reinforced in our whole-school and class assemblies where a wide variety of issues are raised.
- PSHCE addresses issues regarding society and social situations, including issues such as Drugs and Alcohol and the Year 6 pupils attend Kid Alert.
- World Issues are discussed regularly
- Bikeability in Year 5 follows on from other Road Safety work earlier in the school.
- E-safety rules are strongly respected and reviewed regularly with the pupils.
- Visits from authorities such as the Fire Brigade and local Police Officers further encourage children to be aware of and respect the law. In Years 5 and 6 Police visits also encourage children to take part in Operation Lifestyle.

Individual Liberty

- Where possible at Alderman Cogan's, children are actively encouraged to make choices in a safe and supportive environment. We encourage them to become independent learners, enabling them to take pride and ownership in their education. This helps prepare them with life skills for the future - children learn to understand, recognise and value their individual rights and personal freedom and begin to consider how to make safe choices.
- Termly discussions between each child and his/her teacher further encourage children to talk about their learning, and plan their next steps for learning. Throughout the school, children are encouraged to share their thoughts and achievements.

Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those with Different Faiths and Beliefs

- At our school, respect is shown to everyone, adults and children. We aim to help our children to acquire an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other cultures and ways of life.
- We celebrate various events and festivals of different religions and explore them in more detail. Children regularly learn about different religions throughout their school life with our RE curriculum and our Big RE days have been regularly enjoyed by all.

- The Worship at our school follows planned themes and is supported by further work in the classroom.
- Literacy work supports these themes, wherever possible, promoting learning about famous human rights campaigners and their lives, and learning about settings in contrasting localities and in other countries is also an important part of our topic work.
- Through the PSHCE and RE curriculums, pupils are encouraged to discuss and respect differences between people.
- Appreciation of foreign languages is encouraged and the children in our school have regular Chinese visitors, sharing information about their culture and teaching pupils Chinese.
- There are many events and activities that the school promotes and supports throughout the year, encouraging children to develop an appreciation of, and respect for, their own and other cultures: Harvest, support for charities, e.g. Food Bank, Operation Christmas Child shoe box appeal, Remembrance Day, Christmas and Easter celebrations, choir fundraising for charity, Local History Week.