

British Values

At St. Lawrence's these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy

1. We have a Student Council, which meets regularly during the school year. These children have been elected to the role at the start of the year. Each School Councillor was voted for by their class. The School Council is genuinely able to effect change within the school.
2. Democracy is also actively practised in classes with children voting on a range of issues, from how to spend money raised to how to improve the facilities in the school playground.
3. We use storybooks and role play scenarios to ensure that every child knows what pupil voice is and how to use it.
4. The children have pupil questionnaires on issues ranging from playground issues, their opinions about residential visits and their thoughts about their learning in Computing. These then feed into future planning.
5. How we influence democracy is explored through PSHE and assemblies. This includes looking at historical figures such as Nelson Mandela and Rosa Parks and exploring the effectiveness of different approaches.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, is consistently reinforced at St. Lawrence's. Pupils are taught from an early age the 'rules' of the school. 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. Many of these rules and laws are taught through our curriculum, which includes many safety aspects, such as: road safety, firework safety, e-safety and fire safety. We also have links with our police community support officer who comes into school to work with our children.

Individual Liberty

At St Lawrence's pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we provide boundaries from where pupils can make informed choices. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to do so safely (through our e-Safety and PSHE lessons). Our pupils are often given the freedom to make choices and stereotyping is challenged. Any hate-related incidents are dealt with robustly and reported to the local authority.

We ask that all members of the school community treat each other with respect. We use SEAL (Social & Emotional Aspects of Learning) materials as part of our curriculum and work closely with outside agencies to ensure all children can develop positive emotional and social skills.

Anti-bullying has a high profile within the school, addressed through general classroom practice, the PSHE curriculum, assemblies and guest speakers. Children and parents sign an Annual Acceptable Use policy and all our children have e-safety lessons as part of their curriculum.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

St. Lawrence's does benefit from having a diverse range of ethnicities and therefore we proactively promote tolerance of other faiths and beliefs. We do this through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures, through our everyday curriculum, and through our links with other schools both locally, nationally and sometimes internationally. Religious Education lessons, assemblies and PSHE lessons challenge stereotypes and reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others no matter their ethnicity, beliefs, gender, disability, sexual orientation, age or any other protected characteristics (as outlined in the 2010 Equalities Act and article 14 of UNICEF's Rights of the child).

Members of different faiths and religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. Our children visit a variety of places of worship. Major religious festivals are acknowledged through assemblies and the RE curriculum. We encourage our children to interact with children from other schools, both locally and further afield, through organised activities.

N.B. All members of staff have been briefed on the government's Prevent Strategy to counter extremist/terrorist activity. Members of staff have also received Child Protection training and know to be vigilant to potential cases of forced marriage, FGM, private fostering, child sexual exploitation and domestic violence as well as those of neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse and emotional harm.