



St John the Baptist CE

VA

Primary School, Pebmarsh

British Values Policy

Spring 2019

Excite-Embrace-Encourage-Excel

OUR VISION STATEMENT

Every child in our school knows learning is exciting and that within him or herself there is the capacity for success. Each member of our community is encouraged to be adventurous, innovative and creative. Together we welcome problems, knowing it is ok to be stuck because those who never make a mistake, never make a discovery. In this school we applaud effort, resolution and commitment, fostering a positive and caring attitude to all life. Our pupils will have the strength, confidence and courage to become lifelong learners and independent thinkers, embracing and enhancing the world around them.

As a school, we value and celebrate the diverse heritages of everybody at St John the Baptist. Alongside this, we value and celebrate being part of Britain. In general terms, this means that we celebrate traditions and customs in the course of the year; for example, Harvest Festival during the autumn term and trips to the pantomime in at Christmas. We also value and celebrate national events, a recent example being the Queens 90th birthday.

At St John the Baptist Primary School we uphold and teach pupils about British Values which are defined as:

- mutual respect
- rule of law
- democracy
- individual liberty
- tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

These values are taught through Personal, Social, Health and Emotional (PSHE). We also teach British Values through planning and delivering abroad and balanced curriculum.

We also actively promote British Values through ensuring that our curriculum planning and delivery includes suitable opportunities for exploring these values.

Mutual Respect:

Our school ethos and behaviour policy is based around the core values of mutual respect and a sense of responsibility for others.

The Rule of Law:

The importance of laws and rules are consistently reinforced. At the start of the school year, each class discusses the school rules and class routines, principles that are clearly understood by all and seen to be necessary to ensure that every class member is able to learn in a safe and ordered environment.



Our system for behaviour is aligned to an agreed set of behaviour codes. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when rules are broken. To encourage and promote good behaviour, attitude and work, we are committed to praising children's efforts. We praise the children informally, individually, during group work, in front of the whole class and the whole school. Children are rewarded not only for achievement in curriculum areas but for positive behaviour such as kindness, helpfulness, team work and for demonstrating initiative. Rewards are given in the form of stickers and certificates and a Courtesy Cup.. Children's achievements are also recognised during weekly assemblies.

Democracy:

Democracy is an important value at our school. Children, parents and staff have many opportunities for their voices to be heard at St John the Baptist Primary School. Democracy is central to how we operate.

A new School Council is elected each year. The election of the School Council members reflects our British electoral system and demonstrates democracy in action: candidates make speeches, pupils consider characteristics important for an elected representative, pupils vote in secret using ballot boxes etc. Made up of two representatives from each year group, the School Council meets regularly to discuss issues raised by the different classes. This includes voting to support a school charities each year and making decisions about organizing fund raising events. The children are given regular opportunities to debate ideas and reflect their thoughts about current events and news.

Pupils 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. We encourage pupils to take ownership of not only their school but also of their own learning and progress. This encourages a heightened sense of both personal and social responsibility and is demonstrated on a daily basis by our pupils.

Parents' opinions are welcomed at our school through methods such as questionnaires, surveys at parent's evenings, and opportunities to comment on fortnightly newsletters.

Individual Liberty:

Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices at our school, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we provide boundaries for our children to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and planned curriculum. We promote freedom of choice and the right to respectfully express views and beliefs.

Pupils are encouraged to think independently and feel that they are able to express their ideas with confidence and that these are valued. At the same time they are encouraged to be sensitive to the needs of others and be supportive of their peers and younger members of the school community. Our pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are taught how to exercise these safely, such as in our PSHE lessons.



Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

Tolerance, politeness and mutual respect are at the heart of our aims and ethos. All members of the school community are encouraged to treat each other with respect. This is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society. We use opportunities to talk about different cultures and countries and hear about life and work experiences of others. Through Religious Education, PSHE and other lessons children develop awareness and appreciation of other cultures. In English lessons children learn about different cultures through fiction and non-fiction texts and learn to appreciate different cultures in other parts of the world through Art and Music.

