



## **British Values**

### ***Teaching our children about the British Values of 'mutual respect'***

We, at The Woodlands, readily support the current agenda to promote British Values. As a school we are required to provide for the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of our pupils. As part of this requirement, we are expected to actively promote fundamental British values. The government defines these as:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

Our efforts to promote fundamental British values are designed to prepare children for life in modern Britain and we aim to help pupils understand; 'the importance of combatting discrimination', 'how we can influence decision-making by taking part in democratic processes like voting', 'our freedom under British law to choose different faiths and beliefs', 'that the law is there to keep us safe'.

✓ **Democracy:** Pupils have their voices heard through our Junior Leadership Team, including House Leaders and Class Leaders, who are voted in, through elections, every year by the children. The JLT are given regular opportunities to share the pupil voice with the Senior Leaders. Pupil voice is also heard through questionnaires and discussions.

✓ **The Rule of Law:** The importance of Law and rules, i.e. those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced through school assemblies and regular discussions about behaviour expectations. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws and rules that govern and protect us, the responsibilities this involves and the consequences when they are not followed. Visits from authorities such as the Police etc. are regular parts of our calendar. Pupils are regularly rewarded for challenging themselves to do better and for making correct choices to follow rules with team points, green cards, certificates and 'postcards home'.

✓ **Individual Liberty:** Our pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. We educate and provide boundaries for children to make choices safely. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand, appreciate the value of and exercise their rights and personal freedoms through our E-Safety and P4C and PSHE lessons.

✓ **Mutual Respect:** Our school ethos and behaviour policy revolves around our core values such as 'together' -. Assemblies relate to what this means. Respect for others and ourselves is reiterated through personal high expectations, our classroom and learning rules, as well as our behaviour policy.

✓ **Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:** This is demonstrated through enhancing pupils understanding of their place and an acceptance of others' place in a culturally diverse society. We offer opportunities to experience diversity through visits to places of worship and studies of locations different to our own. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying are followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE.