



British Values at Canon Sharples C.E Primary school

The Department for Education state that there is a need “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.”

At Canon Sharples Church of England primary school, British Values are mirrored through our school’s Christian values of

Love, Trust, Fellowship, Friendship, Respect and Peace.

We live these values in our day to day interactions with everyone we meet and we believe that our Christian Values and British values are mutually supportive.

British Values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways,

Democracy

At Canon Sharples, all adults listen to the views of the children and value their opinions. The school is clear in demonstrating how children should contribute and co-operate and consider the views and needs of others. Pupils are listened to by adults and are taught to actively listen to one another, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard. Pupils have the opportunity to share opinions and ideas through the School Council and regular ‘pupil voice’ questionnaires. Elections of the School Council members are based solely on pupil votes and this was designed to reflect the British electoral system. The School Council, whose members are elected by their peers, meets regularly and takes part in decision making on a range of topics. The children have further opportunities to have their voices heard through our Pupil Voice interviews and surveys.

The Rule of Law

At Canon Sharples, the importance of laws, whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced. We have a positive behaviour policy. Our Behaviour policy clearly sets out the rules for our pupils to follow to achieve success. Staff consistently reinforce high expectations of pupils and the children are reminded of the importance of rules in the classroom, as well as in school assemblies. They clearly understand the rewards and sanctions that are used. Pupils are taught to understand the need for laws - that they are there for individual protection, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Assemblies and discussions in class focus on recognising right from wrong. Our pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, the responsibility they have to uphold them and that there are consequences when laws are broken.





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Individual liberty

Canon Sharples pupils are encouraged to be independent learners, constantly making choices, within a safe and supportive environment. They are encouraged to express their views, and teaching and learning incorporates their preferences and interests. Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. They are helped to understand their personal freedoms and are taught how to use these rights to best effect. Our children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely through many curriculum subjects, particularly in PSHE and e-safety lessons.

Mutual respect

Our school ethos encourages everyone to consider and support each other and to celebrate the worth and individuality of every member of the school community. This engenders a climate within which the children feel safe and secure and facilitates the fulfilment of potential. All staff demonstrate respect to everyone with whom they come into contact. They consistently model and promote the behaviours and attitudes that are the foundation of positive relationships. Assemblies and class work promote the diversity of society and the right for each person to be respected and valued equally regardless of ability, gender, faith, heritage or race.

Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

At Canon Sharples, our Christian values and faith is an integral part of the children's day to day learning. Part of this is an understanding of different faiths and beliefs, which is taught through all subjects. The school's curriculum aims to develop understanding of the world and the children are reminded of their place in a culturally diverse society. The RE scheme of work provides opportunities for pupils to develop tolerance of and empathy towards those from different faiths and beliefs. The children visit a number of different places of worship and we welcome leaders of other faiths to share their beliefs with the class. Through this our pupils gain an enhanced understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society.

Actively promoting these values, which are also integral to many other countries throughout the world, means challenging pupils, staff or parents/carers who express opinions contrary to fundamental British values, including 'extremist' views.

School has the duty to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. Being drawn into terrorism includes not just violent extremism but also non-violent extremism, which can create an atmosphere conducive to terrorism and can popularise views which terrorists exploit. Schools must be safe spaces in which children and young people can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and the extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology, and learn how to challenge these ideas.

