

Promoting British Values at the Marish Academy Trust

The DFE have recently reinforced the need to create a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of:

Democracy

The rule of law

Individual liberty

Mutual respect

Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

The Government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy, and these values have been reiterated and sent to schools nationwide again in November 2014.

At the Marish Academy Trust, British values underpin the school ethos and are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Our school motto- 'Work to be outstanding, deserve to be outstanding, will be outstanding!' is our vision for all members of our school community, no matter what their ability, faith or culture and all are challenged to reach their full potential.

Democracy

All staff opinions are valued and adults are encouraged to share their ideas to move the school forward and to provide a supportive, secure and forward looking workforce.

Pupils have opportunities to have their voices heard through pupil questionnaires, PSHE activities and class discussions. Pupils are encouraged to share their views about the school. These views are then considered by the staff and school council.

School Council and House Captain Representatives are elected through democratic voting.

Marish and Willow School Councils meet every two weeks to discuss any issues that have been raised in class or highlighted through pupil voice surveys. The pupils in each class vote for their representatives. School council minutes are displayed and points raised are discussed with adults. Pupil views are taken into account when new initiatives and clubs are being considered.

The Rule of Law

Positive behaviour strategies provide clear boundaries and the development of self-discipline. All individuals whether pupils, staff parents and visitors are expected to abide by and role model the school rules:

- Show good manners and respect at all times
- Care for everyone and everything
- Follow instructions straight away

The importance of laws in school, at home and in the wider world are consistently reinforced during the school day, in behaviour management and through school assemblies and visits. We expect our pupils to behave inside and outside school in an exemplary manner. Pupils discuss the reasons behind these rules and the responsibility that they have to abide by the rules by making the right choice.

Pupils understand that rules are made to protect us. All pupils understand that there are consequences for breaking rules and they know the school sanctions.

Planned visits in the Curriculum from the Police and Fire Services reinforce this message and explain the importance of adhering to and the consequences of breaking laws which govern our land.

Individual Liberty

Pupils are encouraged to make choices from the Nursery onwards secure in the knowledge that they are safe. We provide strong boundaries within a safe and secure environment. Pupils are encouraged to voice their opinions and are guided to making safe choices through PSHE and E-safety lessons. All pupils are taught e-safety rules to keep them safe on the internet. Older pupils are made aware of the dangers of social networking, stranger danger and substance abuse.

Pupils are given opportunities to make choices in the classroom and to decide whether they wish to participate in extra-curricular activities and clubs.

All school activities and classrooms are inclusive and encourage pupils to be self-disciplined.

Mutual respect

Our school rules of respect, honesty and safety provide the structure for an inclusive school. Reflective time in lessons and assemblies provide opportunities for all to consider their contribution to their own and to the collective well-being of the school.

Pupils learn that their behaviour has an effect on others so all members of the school community are expected to treat each other with respect.

Staff are from different cultures and faiths and model respect for all.

Our values are reinforced through displays, newsletters, our websites, collective worship and in curriculum activities including trips and clubs outside school hours..

Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

We are a multicultural school and pupils interact with a variety of cultures and backgrounds which enhances their understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society.

We provide opportunities for the pupils to follow traditional activities and support local and global charities.

Collective worship, PSHE and RE lessons as well as a strong theme of social, moral, spiritual and cultural education evident throughout our curriculum and ethos, regularly promote discussion of these issues. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge and pupils visit places of worship as part of the curriculum.

All pupils know who they can talk to if they have any concerns. The Trust schools have very few bullying or racial incidents; pupils feel secure and happy. This is supported by pupil and parent voice questionnaires.

The Marish Academy Trust will actively challenge any pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values. We are vigilant to any obsessive attitudes or behaviour which might give cause for concern and will notify appropriate authorities for advice.

Revised December 2014