

British Values Statement



The DfE have recently reinforced the 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.”*

The Government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. At Phoenix School these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways.

The Key Values are:

- **Democracy**
- **Rule of Law**
- **Individual Liberty**
- **Mutual Respect**
- **Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs**

Democracy

Students contribute to the drawing up of class rules at the beginning of the year. They have many opportunities for their voices to be heard, in both formal and informal contexts. Students are selected to represent their peers in a variety of contexts. Recently that has been on school uniform.

The Rule of Law

The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour. Students are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service will help to reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Students are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it be through choice of learning challenge, of how they record, of participation in breaktime, lunchtime and Golden time activities, students are given the freedom to make choices.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Students learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

At Phoenix Bay School we place a great emphasis on promoting diversity with the children. Opportunities are regularly planned to address this issue either directly or through the inclusion of stories and celebrations from a variety of faiths and cultures. Our SMSC and PSHE teaching reinforce this.

At Phoenix Bay School we will actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views.

