

## **British Values**

At Monkshouse Primary School we already promote the core aspects of British values through the SMSC work that is integrated throughout every year group. We recognise that such development is most successful when those values and attitudes are promoted by all the staff and provide a model of behaviour for pupils. Through the ethos of the school and the systems in place British values are reinforced regularly and are evidenced in the following ways:

### **Democracy**

Democracy can be seen in action at our school in many ways. We have a school council which meets regularly to discuss issues raised in class council sessions. The school council, which is elected democratically, and includes at least 1 member from each class Y1 –Y6, provides the pupils with an opportunity to raise issues, decide how money is spent, organise events and activities and put forward suggestions for curriculum ideas. Through all areas of the curriculum the pupils are taught the importance of listening to others and their viewpoints, allowing the pupils to gain a full understanding of democracy. The establishment of our school behaviour policy, rights and responsibilities, our School Values and our Vision Statement involved the collecting of ideas and suggestions which the pupils voted on. The school's House Captains, Sports Captains and Mini-Police Officers are also voted for by their peers.

Children from Y1 – Y6 meet with the Headteacher three times a year to put forward their thoughts and opinions on a range of topics relating to the school and their classes.

### **The Rule of Law**

The importance of rules and laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced at Monkshouse Primary School. Pupils are taught from an early age the rules and values of the school, the reasons behind rules; that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when rules are broken. Pupils are helped to learn to manage their behaviour and take responsibility for their actions. Children are involved in the establishing of the rules and the rights and responsibilities, which are reviewed annually. Visits from authorities such as the Police; Fire Service; etc. are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message. We are part of the Mini Police scheme and have Junior Road Safety Officers to support the reinforcement of rules in school.

This type of environment enables pupils to feel safe and secure (in pupil interviews children consistently state that they feel safe at school); this, in turn, promotes the optimum conditions for learning to take place.

### **Individual Liberty**

Making the right choices and being responsible for those are important principles at Monkshouse Primary School. All children receive equal opportunities and are encouraged to be independent in making the choice that is right for them. At Monkshouse Primary School, pupils are actively encouraged to make informed 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 an empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and we advise how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons.

We support others by participating in charitable events such as Children in Need, Macmillan Coffee mornings and providing stock for our local foodbank.

### **Mutual Respect**

Mutual respect is one of our key values and pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies related to what this means and how it is shown. This is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our behaviour policy. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of our school community treat each other with respect.

### **Tolerance of those of different cultures, faiths and beliefs**

We are part of a school and local community where each person is respected and valued equally without regard to ability, gender, faith, heritage or race. We develop tolerance and broaden awareness of others through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. RE, PSHE lessons and assemblies reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others. Members of different faiths and religions are encouraged to share their knowledge and enhance learning at the school. We hold international days to raise awareness of different lifestyles and cultures

All staff at Monkshouse Primary School work closely with parents, carers and other professionals to ensure that the pupils are happy, safe and reach their full potential to live fulfilled lives in the community.