

All schools are expected to promote the fundamental British Values of:

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect
- tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

Millhouse Primary School upholds and promotes British Values in the following ways:

Democracy

Democracy is an important value at our school and children are provided with opportunities for their voices to be heard:

School Council

We have an active School Council which meets regularly. Each September, every child has the opportunity to stand for election to be a member of the School Council. Pupils vote for two representatives for their class in a secret ballot. Members of the School Council are involved in interviewing for new staff, suggesting and considering school improvements, deciding Golden Time activities and organising fundraising activities. The School Council have worked with governors to form the school vision.

Questionnaires and Pupil Interviews

Children's views about their learning and school in general are very important to us. Our monitoring activities often involve consultation with our children – their views are sought through questionnaires and interviews, by staff members and sometimes by governors. The children tell us their thoughts about their learning, behaviour and safety around school.

The Rule of Law

Behaviour System

All children in the school know the importance of rules through the adoption of our 5 Golden Rules. These are consistently reinforced throughout the regular school day, and used to teach children about the rules of the country, how these govern and protect us, and the consequences when laws are broken. Our behaviour system is based on positive reinforcement and rewards; children earn team points, which are totalled at the end of every week and half-termly, and Golden Time is earned for consistently good behaviour. A traffic light system is in place to show children how rules, behaviour and consequences are interlinked. When our school laws are 'broken', children are given time to reflect, and they are supported in understanding how they can adapt their behaviour in light of this reflection.

Assemblies

Assemblies regularly provide opportunities for children to learn about rules and to reinforce those that are important to the school, the country and the world. All assemblies provide opportunities for reflection and some provide practical strategies that the children can apply across the school day. There is a big emphasis on how the children can support each other. Our Celebration Assembly on Friday sees selected children receiving certificates for special achievements that week; certificates are often awarded for exceptional learning attitudes, reinforcing the importance of our school rules.

Curriculum

The rule of law is also promoted through the curriculum; teachers plan activities for children to learn about current laws in the United Kingdom, but also those that might have applied in the past. The children develop an understanding of how laws have changed and the reasons behind this.

Individual Liberty

At Millhouse Primary School, children are actively encouraged to make the right choices, knowing they are in a safe and supportive environment. Children are expected to take responsibility for their own actions and to understand the consequence their actions might have. We educate and provide boundaries for children to enable them to make informed choices, through a safe and supportive environment. The understanding of rights and responsibilities are promoted through acts of collective worship, e-safety lessons, PSHCE. Pupils can also make choices about how to present their work, both at school and when completing their homework, and about which of our extra-curricular clubs and opportunities to participate in. Out-of-school visits offer further opportunities for children to exercise their individual liberty. For example, during our Year 6 residential trip to Kingswood children made their own decisions about how far to push themselves in a number of challenging situations.

Mutual Respect

Showing respect is one of our Golden Rules, and forms part of our school ethos. We encourage respect for ourselves, each other, and our belongings and property, through the curriculum, PSHE lessons and assemblies. We have high expectations that the children show respect for people in different countries, people who live their lives in different ways to us, people who have different beliefs or lifestyles and those who are different in other ways. In line with our commitment to democracy, children at Millhouse Primary are always able to voice their opinions and we foster an environment where they are safe to disagree with each other.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Millhouse Primary School is situated in an area that is not greatly culturally diverse. The school recognises its role in preparing children for life in modern Britain. Children are taught to understand their place in our culturally diverse society through our curriculum and SMSC provision. Our high quality RE curriculum enables our children to discuss and recognise different beliefs and faiths. Assemblies are regularly planned to address this issue either directly or through the inclusion of stories and celebrations from a variety of faiths and cultures.

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