



Thornhill Primary School

British Values Statement

Our school is committed to actively promoting British values to ensure our pupils leave us fully prepared for life in modern Britain.

The government emphasises that all schools should ensure that they teach pupils about British values. We take every opportunity to promote the fundamental British values of:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Through the promotion of these values, our school aims to ensure pupils:

- Understand the democratic process and how citizens can have a say in decision making.
- Recognise the advantages of living under the rule of law and how law is essential for a safe society.
- Understand that there is a separation of power between the executive and the judiciary and why it exists.
- Understand the reasons for accountability of institutions and why courts maintain independence.
- Know why freedom of religion protects all faiths, as well as those with no faith.
- Accept that people who hold different religious beliefs should be tolerated and not discriminated against.
- Value the importance of identifying and combatting extremism.

We promote British values both within and beyond the classroom and these values are at the heart of our ethos. Here are just some of the ways our school seeks to embed the teaching of British values.

Democracy

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced at our schools. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service help reinforce this message.

Children are taught from an early age the rules of the school. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind our school rules, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when rules are broken.

We also have school councils and we follow a democratic election process.

The rule of law and individual liberty

At both Arlecdon and Thornhill Schools, 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 informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our eSafety and PSHE work.

Through activities such as Bike-ability cycle training, children learn to abide by rules outside of school.

Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Children 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. We provide opportunities for the children to visit places of worship and we actively encourage visitors from a range of communities and organisations into school.

Our weekly Good Work Assemblies and our school displays promote the core values of our school.

We actively promote diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures. RE lessons promote knowledge and understanding of different religions around the world and assemblies celebrating different religious festivals.

Our school supports a variety of charities each year and plans fundraising and awareness raising activities to support those charities.