

Promoting British Values at Hunsdon JMI School

The Department of Education 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**
- **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 by the Prime Minister this year. We reinforce these values regularly and in the following ways:

• **Democracy**

Children have the opportunity to have their voices heard through Pupil questionnaires, weekly assemblies, monthly whole school council meetings, a suggestion box and circle times. They are consulted on the rewards which are incorporated into our school positive behaviour policy and their views are taken into account when new initiatives and clubs are being considered.

• **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 the regular school day, as well as dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. Pupils 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; Fire Service etc. are incorporated into the curriculum as and when appropriate.

• **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 children to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through eSafety. Whether it is through choice of challenge, or of participation in extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, children are given the freedom to make choices.

• **Mutual Respect**

Part of our school ethos and positive behaviour policy has revolved around Core Values such as 'Respect'. Posters around the school promote respect for themselves and others and this is reiterated through our classroom rules. Children discuss the issues as part of our assemblies.

• **Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs**

This is achieved through enhancing children's understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have followed and been supported by learning in RE. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within the school. Pupil voice indicated that this has been successful.