Promoting British Values at Ash Hill Primary School

We agree with the Department for Education's five part definition of British Values:

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

At Ash Hill, we teach British Values through planning and delivering a broad and balanced curriculum. This is enhanced further through assemblies and our Personal, Social, Health and Emotional (PSHE) and Citizenship learning.

Democracy:

Pupil voice plays a big part in life at Ash Hill. Our pupil elected school council play a strong role in our school. They are elected by their class peers and are involved in making Ash Hill a better place to learn. Pupils have input in their learning and what they would like to learn which promotes pupil voice. For example, the pupils decide as a class how they would like to learn certain skills in subjects and this is used to inform the teacher's planning. Pupil questionnaires and interviews are also conducted throughout the year. We know that the formation of the school council and the active participation of our pupils will sow the seeds for a more sophisticated understanding of democracy in the future.

The Rule of Law:

Our pupils will encounter rules and laws throughout their entire lives. We want our pupils to understand that whether these laws govern the class, the school, the neighbourhood or the country, they are set for good reasons and must be adhered to. This understanding of the importance of rules is consistently reinforced through assemblies and our curriculum. The involvement of our pupils in the creation of our class rules and success criteria helps them to understand the reasons behind rules and the consequences if they are broken. Throughout the year we welcome visits from members of the wider community including police, war veterans, the fire brigade and many more. We believe that clear explanations and real life stories emphasise the importance of the Rule of Law for our pupils.

Individual Liberty:

We are investing a lot of time in creating a positive learning culture at Ash Hill, so that the pupils experience a safe environment where choices and freedoms are encouraged. We offer a range of clubs which pupils have the freedom to choose from, based on their interests. Through our E-Safety, emotional wellbeing and PSHE sessions, we educate children about their rights and personal freedoms as well as supporting them in recognising how to exercise these freedoms safely.

Mutual Respect:

In a school with over 21 different languages and ethnic groups, our pupils learn together with absolute respect for each other. We change talk partners weekly and every pupil knows that we respect and appreciate each other; no matter what differences may exist. Mutual respect is at the core of our school life. We are currently developing new systems for behaviour at Ash Hill, this will be values driven and we will be developing a school pledge.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs:

Our location means we are fortunate to be surrounded by endless diversity which we respect and celebrate. We offer a culturally rich and diverse curriculum in which all major religions are studied and respected. Parents and leaders of different faiths are welcomed to the school to share their beliefs, while we also visit numerous places of worship. We strongly believe that tolerance is gained through knowledge and understanding. Through our curriculum and the routines of our daily school life, we strive to demonstrate tolerance and help children to become knowledgeable and understanding citizens who can build a better Britain for the future.