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**St Stephen’s British Values**

At St Stephen’s, we recognise the importance of preparing children for life in modern Britain and promoting values that are an integral part of 21st century British society. The core British Values are promoted and reinforced in school in a number of ways:

* **Democracy -** School Council representatives (Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary) are voted for by their peers. During Class Council a vote is taken (secret ballot) to decide upon which topics to take forward to School Council. Year 6 cover democracy in Ancient Greece topic. ‘Having a voice’ – SEAL theme.
* **Rule of Law -** At the beginning of each year, pupils work together with the teacher to produce class rules. Assemblies and class discussions reinforce the reasons for particular rules and the importance of adhering to them. Visits by the Community Police and Magistrates (Year 6) also highlight aspects of the law, including anti-social behaviour, and their role in shaping society.
* **Individual Liberty -** Pupils are encouraged to be independent learners and to make informed choices. Examples include class debates and discussions through PSHE, RE (10 commandments) or debates linked to curriculum topics (e.g. Martin Luther King). E-safety sessions promote the importance of pupils making informed choices for safety reasons.
* **Mutual Respect -** Our school ethos is based around Gospel values – to show respect and tolerance for others. Through assemblies and classroom activities, pupils are reminded about the importance of respecting the rights of others and self-respect. Opportunities for pupils to act as role models (Reception Buddies, House Captains and Play Leaders) and celebration of achievements (Star Awards, Super Learner, Brilliant Behaviour, Good Samaritan) all play a part in reinforcing the importance of respect for the opinions and achievements of others.
* **Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs -** As part of the RE curriculum throughout the school, pupils study other world faiths (Islam, Buddhism and Judaism). People of other faiths have been invited into school to speak to classes about their faith and culture. Our link with All Saints helps to promote an understanding of the diversity of society and the right of each person’s beliefs to be respected (Year 6 pupils from All Saints led an assembly on the meaning of Eid). Year 6 have visited mosques, Year 5 have visited a synagogue and Year 2 the Catholic Shrine Schoenstatt. The school has good links with the local Catholic and Methodist churches as part of Churches on the Mount (COM) community projects including the Kearsley Community Christmas Tree and the Lenten Tree project.