

British Values

What are the aims and purpose of this subject?

The aims and purpose of this subject is to promote the core aspects of British Values through topics, having a sense of community and having a happy and secure environment which enables our pupils to learn the importance of good manners and polite behavior. In turn, at Oswald Road we aim for our pupils to become valuable and well-rounded members of society who treat others with respect and tolerance, regardless of background.

The Government defines fundamental British Values as the following:

- The value of democracy
- Individual Liberty
- The rule of law
- Mutual respect for, and tolerance of those with or without faith.

We aim to embed British Values alongside our school vision and ethos. We have put together 10 words which we want our children to leave school being and feeling which are; happy, respectful, inspired to learn, independent, aspirational, creative, self-confident, resilient, compassionate, well-rounded. A large part of this relates to teaching our children about care and consideration towards our wider community and planet. We strongly believe that it is important for them to learn their individual roles and responsibilities, their service to others and develop a sense of self-worth and belonging. An example of this is our school Eco Team which consists of each class from year 1-6 having a representative. They regularly meet to discuss and work out ways of how we can reduce waste. We are aiming to gain 'Plastic Clever Schools' status by trying to reduce as much single use plastic around school as possible. This relates to The British Values of Democracy and The Rule of Law, where children learn the importance of not littering and discussing their views and opinions openly.

The teaching of British Values at Oswald Road fits into our every day school routine and is seamless throughout the year. The children are regularly exposed to enriched experiences such as special visitors, going to school trips, and relating our topics to British Values, involving the pupils to create class rules, voting, expressing interests and practicing debating skills. We aim to allow children to understand that it is imperative that every person in our school is unique and we celebrate our differences by showing respect and tolerance towards everyone regardless of faith, background or race.

The values we teach through our curriculum also link closely to our Rights Respecting work. We do not view them as discrete, singular subjects or 'bolt ons'. Instead they intertwine together, creating a seamless and defined way of teaching and delivering these areas. A lot of the work we do within British Values, Rights Respecting and our weekly PSHE sessions overlap one another.

We aim to ensure all our SEND children access British Values content at an appropriate pitch (both for challenge and support) and have full access to the curriculum. This means they access British Values throughout topics covered. We are aspirational for all children.

What are the National Curriculum requirements for this subject?

On the 27th November 2014, the Department of Education published guidance on how schools can promote British Values. They have stated that all independent and state-maintained schools have a duty to 'actively promote' the fundamental British Values of Democracy, the rule of law, Individual Liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with or without different faiths and beliefs.

Democracy: This refers to being in a democratic country, having the freedom to vote and participate in decisions.

The Rule of Law: The understanding of what rules are, how they are enforced and how they can be applied fairly.

Individual Liberty: Giving children the opportunity to make choices and take risks, knowing that they are in a safe environment where their learning is supported and giving them the freedom to exercise their rights.

Mutual Respect for, and tolerance of those with or without faith: Respecting other people's religions, faiths, beliefs, cultural backgrounds, thoughts and feelings and treating them fairly, regardless of any differences we may have.

How is this subject's curriculum organised?

British Values is not taught as a discrete subject but rather it is taught within the curriculum. Teachers are aware of the 4 areas of British Values and are able to apply them to their topics and subjects such as English, History, RE, Geography and PSHE. British values are also always being promoted in so much that we do as a School. This includes school assemblies, School prefects, British Values Day and charity days. The children celebrate traditions and celebrations throughout the year. For example during the Autumn term we celebrate a Harvest festival, Remembrance Day and Christmas. During Spring we celebrate Easter. We also value and celebrate national events such as The Royal Wedding, The Queen's birthday and the Olympics. Examples of how we teach British Values through subjects are as follows:

Geography: Pupils are taught about British major cities, rivers and various flags that make up the UK. We hold an annual Cultural Speaking Day where children have a better understanding of the difference between Britain and other countries and backgrounds. We embrace and learn about the different countries we learn about.

History: Children learn about British History such as life during WW2, The Great Fire of London or studying the local area they live in. As well as British History, they also learn about History from different countries such as the Shang era and the Egyptians. The children discuss and talk about how Britain has changed and evolved, what they have learnt from the Romans and Vikings for example. The children also learn about important historic people who have changed the course of Britain over time such and how they used Individual Liberty and freedom of speech to move Britain forward. These people include, The Suffragettes and Rosa Parks.

RE: Through the teaching of RE, children apply and learn about the British Value; Mutual respect and tolerance of those with or without different faiths and beliefs. We cover different religions, faiths and cultures and talk about freedom of speech, human rights and compare these with different countries and beliefs. Children are taught that it is expected and imperative that respect is shown to everyone, whatever differences we may have, and to

everything. We actively challenge pupils to express their opinions to our school beliefs which are fundamental to upholding British Values.

English: Our pupils are encouraged to exercise their rights to personal freedoms safely. This is done by taking part in debates, voting, reading different fiction texts which consider cultures from other parts of the world. Many of the books taught through topics cover themes about democracy and mutual respect. Pupils look at the different characters from stories and discuss and write about how these characters embody different values. Within English, children also read various poetry, sing songs and look at concepts of Liberty and Democracy. Our children actively write to politicians, for example Year 6 have written to the Government about plastic pollution and decided that they wanted to visit Formby beach to clear plastic and for litter picking. Through embedding British Values in our curriculum, our children feel motivated and empowered to want to offer more to our community and to make a difference. One of our pupils in Year 6 has set up her own website on plastic pollution where she has tried to learn more about the law regarding this to support her movement forwards with this idea. Two of our younger pupils have written to the Queen regarding immigration, where they have voiced their opinions, asked questions and offered suggestions. They successfully received a response.

In our Early Years, British Values plays a big part across the year and in all 17 areas. Children are taught that their opinions are important and that each child's thoughts and feelings are listened to and valued. We teach the children that sometimes they will be given the power to choose and will make decisions on their own and in groups. We promote British Values by:

- Encouraging children to share stories of their home that reflects the values and diversity of their experiences.
- Provide resources and activities that challenge gender, cultural and racial stereotyping.
- Choosing time – We give the children the option to choose which activities they want to do during the course of the day. They are encouraged to respect each other's decision and discuss how they feel.
- Emotions – We help children to identify their emotions and talk about reasons for their emotions.
- Children are taught that everyone should be treated with respect, learning to understand and appreciate each other's differences and being part of a community where not everyone is the same. We discuss different family sets up's and celebrate different festivals and religious events such as Eid, Diwali and Hanukah.
- We work with children to create rules and expectations around behavior. The children have had visits from our local Police, Fire fighters and other people who help us.
- We provide opportunities for risk taking such as the obstacle course in the Nursery playground so children can develop their self-esteem and increase their confidence in their own abilities.
- Weekly Circle Time sessions following Jennie Jigsaw, singing songs and ring games.

We ensure our SEND children access British Values content with the appropriate level of challenge and support.

All of our SEND children (and within our Universal Offer) will receive teaching of British Values throughout their curriculum.

Some SEND children (SEND support pupils) may need links to be made more explicitly and more support making links.

Our most complex SEND children (Pupils with an EHCP) may access British Values via the year group's curriculum below their chronological age that they are accessing. They may also access other areas of British Values at their chronological age curriculum in other subjects. This will all be dependent on the need of the child(ren).

We also take pride in the fact that Oswald Road was accredited as meeting the required standard as the 'Skilled Teacher' and 'Supportive Governors & Parents' sections of the Rainbow Flag Award. The Rainbow Flag Award plays a vital part in equipping our children in receiving a positive education around LGBT topics.

British Values is supported by our regular special days and enrichments we organise. We put together a calendar of events every year so we can focus on and highlight British Values throughout the course of the year. Enrichments such as British Values Day, RE day, Cultural Speaking Day and Rainbow Day are some of our examples. We hold special assemblies where guest speakers are invited to talk to the children about specific themes that relate to our values and ethos, such as Harvest and Easter assemblies, the local Police Station and Firefighters. We have taken groups of children into the community as well such as singing at Chorlton Good Neighbours where children performed for the local community members, spent time with and socialised with them.

Parents are regularly invited into our school where we share and learn from one another through discussion and listening to their opinions and views. We hold parent forums where parents can come and speak to the head teacher about what is working well and what can be improved. Every year, we recruit a Parental Engagement Person for each class to help us promote events and raise any ideas parents have for more improvements to school. We also have a Facebook page dedicated to parents so that parents and carers are able to communicate and ask questions.

Why is it organised like this?

British values is embedded in subjects rather than taught discretely because it is a thread through in so much of what we do. Our school have taken a holistic approach when teaching British Values rather than concentrating on individual subjects. The curriculum provides many opportunities for discussing and promoting British Values which are addressed through our curriculum. British Values is not a stand-alone subject – rather it is lived through our school ethos and Values which flows through our school.

The advice from the Government and National curriculum regarding British Values is that it should be to include it in suitable parts of the curriculum – as appropriate for the age of the pupils.

We hold many enrichments throughout the year as well as traditions and customs such as British Values, Cultural Speaking, Remembrance Day, Eid and Christmas. We actively take part in many charity events. These enrichments take place regularly because we want children to learn about why these values are important in helping them become well-rounded, resilient individuals. We want our pupils to thrive in life by taking responsibility of their behaviour, distinguishing right from wrong, understand how they can contribute to society and their community, respect and live in harmony with those with or without faith and appreciating and accepting that we live in a democratic society where everyone is entitle to their own opinion and view and that we all have freedom of speech. It is important that as a school we continue to hold assemblies and invite special guest speakers in from the community, people who help us for example, Doctors, Nurses, Firefighters, Police Officers,

parents, musicians and those who have different religious background into our school because we want the children to understand and broaden their horizons to prepare themselves to become respectful and aspirational young people. We also want to enable them to celebrate our diverse world.

We also organise these days and events because we recognise and value the importance of working with the wider community and parents. We also have a very active PTA who organise summer and Christmas fairs, bake sales, coffee mornings and hold regular meetings allowing everyone to socialise and work together.

For all of our SEND children (and within our Universal Offer), is taught throughout the curriculum as it is threaded through so much that we do.

For some of our SEND children (SEND support), links need to be made more explicitly so the children can make those links between what they are learning and how that relates to specific British Values.

For our most complex children (pupils with an EHCP), content needs to be pitched at a certain level for the children to grasp and understand. As a school we always ensure we carefully consider what that looks like and understand a child may need to access a chronologically lower year groups' curriculum in some areas and not others.

How are knowledge, understanding and skills developed in this subject?

Please see British Values action plan and Mapping with British Values links across year groups from Year 1 – 6.

Skills are also developed through the following:

- Assemblies such as Harvest, Rainbow assembly, weekly Rights Respecting certificates during Highlight assemblies.
- Visitors for example; Captain Phil for Harvest Assembly, Local Police Officers, Local Fire fighters and other members of the community such as Doctor's and Nurses.
- Charity Events such 'Cash for kids', collections for Chorlton and Didsbury Food Bank, Barakh Food Aid, Red Nose Day.
- Taking part in whole school days such as British Values Day, Cultural Speaking Day, RE Day.
Celebrating and learning about different cultural, religious and significant days such as Eid, Diwali, Hanukah, Remembrance Day, St Patrick's day.
- Regular class discussion such as debates, votes, discussing and comparing different people, scenarios and points in time.
- Practical activities involving working collaboratively and individually, respecting each other views and opinions.
- Encouraging children to share views by answering questions and offering solutions.

We see how our pupils grow and develop their knowledge of British Values and how they become young members of society by having these events in place. They develop their confidence and compassion through learning from and being inspired by these special events.

What does this subject look like...

in lessons?	in books?	in the environment?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regular class discussion such as debates, votes, discussing and comparing different people, scenarios and points in time.• Practical activities involving working collaboratively and individually, respecting each other views and opinions.• PE: working together as a team, sharing ideas, respecting each other and following rules.• Encouraging children to share views by answering questions and offering solutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work relating to British Values is recorded in books.• Photographs and drawings / pictures are recorded on Seesaw and on Tapestry in EYFS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are three British values boards in school. These are updated at the end of very term. One contains pupil voice and the other two contain up to date work taken from the children through topics. The boards also display photographs of visitors, activities from British Values Day, Rainbow Day and Cultural Speaking Day.

How is this subject resourced?

Oswald Road invested in a PSED scheme called 'Jigsaw' which provides teaching staff with a clear and comprehensive set of lessons for the teaching of PSHE. It runs from EYFS through to Year 6. It brings together PSHE, emotional and spiritual development in a concise scheme of learning. The scheme provides lessons, resources and activities fit for all year groups. Oswald Road also has an experienced teacher who leads British Values and who works closely with the PSHE lead, Rights Respecting Lead and pastoral team to ensure our vision and ethos is always embedded and delivered throughout the school year.

We also see our parents and community as an excellent resource which we utilise well to support the children to gain further knowledge and understanding about the world around them.