



British Values at TLA



“At The Linden Academy we reflect British values in all that we do. We aim to support and guide our children on their journey through life so they can grow into safe, caring, democratic, responsible, respectful and tolerant citizens who make a positive contribution to British society and the wider world.”

The Department for Education states that:

“Schools should promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.”

The Department for Education defines British Values as follows:

- Respect for democracy and support or participation in the democratic process
- Respect for the basis on which the law is made and applies in England
- Support for equality of opportunity for all
- Support and respect for the liberties of all within the law
- Respect for and tolerance of different faiths and religious and other beliefs

At TLA we promote British Values in the following ways:

DEMOCRACY

- Through cross curricular activities, all children are encouraged to participate in discussion and debate about topics of interest, express their views and make a meaningful contribution to the running of the school to make it a safe and supportive place to be. Children also have the opportunity to have their voices heard through pupil surveys and the School Council.
- The principle of democracy is explored in the curriculum as well as during assemblies, theme days and through the election and operation of the School Council.
- Our school behaviour policy involves rewards and guidelines which the pupils have discussed, also considering the principles of the UN Rights of the Child: Non-discrimination, best interest of the child, right to life survival and development and right to be heard.
- Pupils have had active involvement in the selection processes of new staff.

RULE OF LAW

- School values, behaviour guidelines and rules are clear, fair and regularly promoted.
- Pupils are always helped to distinguish right from wrong, in the classroom, during assemblies, and on the playground.
- Pupils are encouraged to respect the law and pupils enjoy visits from authorities such as the Police, Fire Service, Ambulance, etc. to help reinforce this message.
- The Behaviour Policy (including Anti-Bullying) sets out a zero tolerance approach to any form of aggression, abuse or violence, which extends to pupils, staff and parents and carers.

- The school has links with the local police and PCSO's who have visited and participated in school assemblies.

INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

- Within school, pupils are actively encouraged, and given the freedom to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. eg. by participating in extra-curricular activities, adopting a "Restorative Justice" approach to disagreements and reflecting on choices made in many situations.
- Pupils are supported to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence.
- Pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their behaviour and our pastoral support system reinforces the importance of making the right choices. Pupils are offered the opportunity to decide who a key contact adult may be if they wish to speak with someone.
- Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our e-safety teaching and PSHE lessons.
- Vulnerable pupils are protected and stereotypes challenged. A strong anti-bullying culture is embedded in the school and any form of bullying is challenged and addressed. The school also operates a system of logging incidents and revisit the focus on Anti-Bullying through assemblies.
- Pupils have key roles and responsibilities in school e.g. Year 6 Office Holders, library monitors and elected membership of the School Council.
- The school has enjoyed visits from the NSPCC to learn about their rights to protection from harm.

MUTUAL RESPECT AND TOLERANCE OF THOSE WITH DIFFERENT FAITHS AND BELIEFS

- Respect is one of the core values of our school. The pupils know and understand that it is expected that respect is shown to everyone, adults and children.
- Pupils are helped to acquire an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other cultures and ways of life.
- Staff and pupils are encouraged to challenge prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour.
- Links and visits are promoted with local faith communities and places of worship. e.g. Members of different faiths or religions are invited to school to share their knowledge and enhance learning within assemblies and in class: Eid and Diwali Assemblies, visits to local places of worship including St Mary's Church and the Luton True Vine Fellowship
- Through the PSHE and RE curriculum pupils are encouraged to discuss and respect differences between people, such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability and family situations.
- We offer a culturally rich and diverse curriculum in which all major religions are studied and respected and work relating to the global community is embedded in many of our Creative Curriculum topics. These curriculum topics offer children the chance to reflect on our core values and British values as well as comparing them to cultures and ways of life in other countries.
- Our weekly reward assemblies include rewards for attitude to learning, demonstration of our values and positive personal development characteristics. Pupils celebrate with their peers and acknowledge achievements both in and out of school.
- Involvement in fundraising activities for local, national and wider world charitable organisations to support communities and individuals, eg, Macmillan Cancer support, Luton Foodbank, Salvation Army, British Legion in conjunction with Remembrance Event.