

## Promoting British Values at Henry Fawcett

The DfE 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 and mutual respect and 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. At Henry Fawcett these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

- **Democracy:**

Democracy is rife within the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our Pupil Council, Ambassadors and Learning detectives. Pupils have been involved in decisions on the content of our school curriculum, choosing a new catering company, designing our new playground and choosing an engaging reading scheme to name but a few.

- **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 regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. Pupils in each class have the opportunity to set their own class rules at the start of each academic year, which they agree as a class, to abide by to support their learning. 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, nurses etc. are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message.

- **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 pupils to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment, and an empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it be through choice of challenge, of how they record, of participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

- **Mutual Respect:**

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy has revolved around Core Values such as ‘Respect’, and pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies related to what this means and how it is shown. Our ethos is based around mutual respect for all whether it be pupil to adult or adult to pupil, and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our behaviour policy.

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

This is achieved through enhancing pupils 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 been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE. Cultural differences and diversities within our school community and beyond are celebrated in our international week in the Autumn term. This ends with the whole community enjoying the pupils performing a range of dances and songs from different cultures and faiths, then the whole community sharing food from their heritage.