



British Values

At Thaxted Primary School, we are committed to actively promoting British Values as defined by the government, which include Democracy, the Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect, and Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We believe these values are fundamental in establishing a strong moral foundation for our children, enabling them to develop into responsible and upstanding citizens.

Our ethos is intrinsically linked to our six 'R's: Respect, Responsibility, Reflection, Reasoning, Resilience, and Resourcefulness. These principles guide our approach to teaching British Values, ensuring that pupils gain a comprehensive understanding of what it means to be an engaged member of society.

We incorporate these values through various channels including assemblies, school celebrations, our enriching curriculum, and meaningful connections with the wider community. Through these initiatives, children learn about the importance of democracy, civic responsibility, and the rules and laws that govern us. They also gain insights into the monarchy, equality, values, virtues, environmental awareness, and the significance of understanding and respecting diverse faiths.

In fostering these values, we strive to prepare our students to contribute positively to society, embracing cultural diversity.

Democracy

At our school, we are committed to instilling the fundamental British value of democracy within our students. We believe it is essential for children to understand and engage with democratic principles in their daily lives. This commitment is exemplified through various initiatives that allow students to witness democracy in action.

We regularly invite members of the community, such as magistrates, police officers, and firefighters, to visit our school and share their experiences. These interactions provide students with a practical understanding of how democracy operates within our society. Furthermore, our School Parliament serves as a vibrant platform where children can participate in decision-making processes, allowing them to experience the workings of a democratic system first-hand.

In addition, we elect our House Captains through a democratic voting process, fostering a sense of responsibility and leadership among students. Regularly conducted pupil voice sessions ensure that every member of our school community feels heard and valued, reinforcing the idea that each opinion matters.





Our curriculum includes the study of historical approaches to crime and punishment, as well as an exploration of democracy in our Personal, Social, Health, and Economic (PSHE) lessons. Through these programmes, we equip our students with the knowledge and understanding necessary to appreciate and actively engage in democratic processes, both now and in their future

Rule of Law

At our school, the principle of the rule of law is integral to fostering a safe and supportive learning environment. Children are introduced to this vital British value through our clear school rules and comprehensive behaviour policy. These guidelines not only ensure order within the school community but also serve to emphasise the importance of rules in the broader context of our society and country.

During Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) lessons, pupils engage in discussions that illuminate why rules are essential for the effective functioning of a community. At the commencement of each academic year, classes participate in collaborative discussions to establish their own class rules. This process allows students to actively think about what constitutes fairness and purpose, fostering a sense of ownership and responsibility.

Our behaviour policy is firmly rooted in the principles of restorative justice, which encourages children to reflect on their actions and understand the impact of their behaviour on others. By prioritising the personal growth of each child, we empower them to make informed and considerate decisions, thereby reinforcing the significance of the rule of law in their lives and in society at large. Through these initiatives, our school cultivates not only well-behaved students but also principled and responsible citizens.

Individual Liberty

At Thaxted Primary School, children learn their right to make individual choices whilst respecting the choices of others in a safe and supportive environment. We help children understand their rights and personal freedoms and teach them how to exercise them safely and responsibly. From choosing their learning challenges in lessons to selecting clubs and activities during lunchtime or after school, pupils are given regular opportunities to express themselves and make decisions which affect their school life. Our enrichment activities support their freedom of expression e.g themed dress-up days, embroidery, watercolours.





Through our PSHE curriculum, assemblies and class discussions we teach children about the importance of making informed choices and respecting the choices of others. Pupils are also encouraged to share their opinions through School Parliament and classroom circle time , fostering a sense of ownership and voice in our school community. By nurturing confidence and self-esteem, we empower our pupils to speak up, explore their interests, and grow into independent, thoughtful individuals.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is at the heart of everything we do. We believe that every member of our school community should be valued, listened to and treated with kindness. We teach our pupils to respect themselves and others. This is reinforced through our school rules , daily interactions and the way we model respectful behaviour in all aspects of school life. Our curriculum, particularly through PSHE and RE , and assemblies, explores the themes of respect, empathy and understanding. Pupils learn to work co-operatively, celebrate diversity and resolve conflict peacefully. Children learn that actions and words have an impact and that showing respect is key to creating a happy, safe and inclusive school. Our House Captains and Play leaders are crucial in creating this environment.

Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Learning about different cultures and religions helps children to grow into kind, respectful and open-minded individuals. Through our RE lessons, assemblies, visiting speakers and celebrations of religious festivals, children learn about a wide range of beliefs and traditions. We encourage questions and discussion and curiosity in a safe and supportive environment. We celebrate diversity in our school and promote inclusion through our curriculum, displays and everyday interactions. By teaching tolerance, we help our pupils build on friendships, challenge stereotypes and develop a strong sense of fairness and respect for others.

