

British Values at Atlas Academy – September 2019

Democracy

Pupils are listened to by adults and are taught to listen carefully and with concern for each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard. Pupils also have the opportunity to air their opinions and ideas through our School Council and questionnaires. The elections of the School Council members are based solely on pupil votes, reflecting our British electoral system and demonstrating democracy in action. Democracy flourishes within our school.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws – whether those that apply to the classroom, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced. Each class discusses and sets its own Class Charter that is clearly understood by all and seen to be necessary to ensure that every class member is able to learn in a safe and ordered environment. These are clearly displayed in the classrooms. Our 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. The curriculum provides opportunities to help pupils distinguish between what is morally right or wrong. Regular visits from authorities such as the police and fire services reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty

Children are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. We educate and provide boundaries for our pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment. Our Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are shown how to exercise these safely. Examples of this can be seen through our e-safety and PSHE opportunities. We implement a strong anti-bullying culture. Children develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence. Whether it is through choice of challenge in an activity; of how they may record this; of how they behave or of participation in our extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, children are given the freedom to make choices. Each day there is a choice of a hot dinner on the menu and children are encouraged from a young age to make their own choice.

Mutual Respect

Children know and understand that we value respect and cooperation. Children respect that they have rights and, in order to have these rights, they respect that that they need to behave with responsibility for others' rights.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Tolerance is enhanced through pupils understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. The school has high-profile assemblies which celebrate religious festivals that are supported by our RE and PSHE opportunities. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. Our pupil participation in the weekly assemblies and various cultural events has been successful, particularly International Week.