

Promoting British Values at Gig Mill Primary School

The DfE 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 2015 Prevent Strategy. At Gig Mill Primary School, these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways.

Democracy

Gig Mill Primary School is proud to be a UNICEF Rights Respecting school.

Children have many opportunities for their voices to be heard. We have a school council and Junior Leadership Team when each class from year one to year six elects a school councillor. This school councillor is then part of the school council and everyone meets together at least once each half term. The School Council gives our pupils a voice – their opinions are asked and listened to, and their views taken into account.

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 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 and Fire Service 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 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 learning 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

As a Rights Respecting School, mutual respect is at the heart of our values at Gig Mill. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect.

At Gig Mill, we have playground buddies and anti-bullying ambassadors (Diana Award) to encourage our children to be happy and healthy with active playtimes and always someone to play with.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Gig Mill Primary School place a great emphasis on promoting diversity with the children. Assemblies are regularly planned to address this issue either directly or through the inclusion of stories and celebrations from a variety of faiths and cultures. Our RE, PSHE and RRSA teaching reinforce this. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school

At Gig Mill Primary School we will actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including ‘extremist’ views