

At John Ball Primary School we believe the diversity of backgrounds of all pupils, families and wider school community is a key strength of the school. We have Core Values, which encapsulate British values:

- Respect Each Other
- Always exceed Your best
- Take Responsibility
- Help and Care about Each Other
- Everyone Matters

We have a themes based curriculum, which embraces the principles and values of the Unicef Rights Respecting programme. We are a Level 1 school already, awaiting an assessment for Level 2 this academic year.

The Department for Education states that there is a 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 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

Through our core values we reflect British values in all that we do. We aim to nurture our children to become safe, caring, democratic, responsible and respectful adults who are motivated to make a positive difference to British society and to the world. We encourage our children to be curious, creative, open minded, self-regulated and independent individuals, respectful of themselves and of others in our school, our local community and the wider world.

At John Ball, we actively promote British values in the following ways:

DEMOCRACY (Take Responsibility and Everyone Matters)

- All children are encouraged to debate topics of interest, express their views and make a meaningful contribution to the running of the school on matters that directly involve pupils. Children also have the opportunity to have their voices heard through pupil questionnaires and focus groups.
- Our class learning culture is explicitly democratic with high levels of respect shown by staff towards pupils, pupils towards staff and pupils towards pupils. In all classes children respect and value each other's diverse opinions within the context of a Rights Respecting School / Classroom e.g. referring to class charters focussed on pupils' rights.
- The principle of democracy is explored in the curriculum as well as during assemblies and special days. Our local MP Heidi Alexander also visits the school from time to time. We have our own Pupil Parliament.
- Our Behaviour for Learning policy encourages pupils to take responsibility, to show respect and to learn to self-regulate through reflection.
- John Ball pupils have active involvement in the selection of Rights Respecting Ambassadors, Pupil Parliament reps, Head Boy and Head Girl and Eco Committee members

RULE OF LAW (Take responsibility and Help and care about Each Other)

- Our school follows 'Core values', which are integral to our learning and ethos every day. These are the focus of assemblies with a value of the month shared with the school community.
- School rules and expectations are clear, fair and consistently promoted.
- Pupils are always helped to distinguish right from wrong, in the classroom, during assemblies and in the playground.
- Pupils are encouraged to respect the law and John Ball enjoys visits from authorities such as the Police, Fire Service, Ambulance, etc. to help reinforce this message
- The Behaviour and Anti-Bullying policies set out a zero tolerance baseline for any form of aggression, abuse or violence, which extends to pupils, staff and parents and carers.

INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY (Everyone matters)

- 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 signing up for extra-curricular clubs.
- 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 reinforces the importance of making the right choices.
- 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 exists in the school and any form of bullying is challenged and addressed. The school also operates a robust system of logging incidents.
- Pupils have key roles and responsibilities in school e.g. Playground Leaders and those mentioned above
- We are a Rights Respecting school, we are a community where **children's rights** are learned, taught, practised, respected, protected and promoted.

MUTUAL RESPECT AND TOLERANCE OF THOSE WITH DIFFERENT FAITHS AND BELIEFS (Respect Each Other and Everyone Matters)

- 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 through our RE days.
- Through the PSHE and RE curriculums pupils are encouraged to discuss and

respect differences between people, such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, gender or sexuality and differences of family situations.

- Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudiced-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE.

We offer a culturally rich and diverse curriculum in which all major religions are studied and respected and global dimension work embedded in many of our themes, such as the people power and Politics and What is wealth? These curriculum themes explicitly promote reflection on our core values and British values.