



## TEACHING and PROMOTING BRITISH VALUES at FIR TREE

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. At Fir Tree Primary School and Nursery 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 School and House Council and Pupil questionnaires. Elections for School and House Council representatives are undertaken in each class and House group. Children are always able to voice their opinions and we foster an environment where children are safe to disagree with each other.

### **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; Fire Service; etc. are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message. Our **Value of the Month** system is embedded into all that we do in school.

### **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 the 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, PSHE lessons and class assemblies. Pupils are given the freedom to make choices and opportunities to take part in different school events.

### **Mutual Respect:**

Part of our school ethos and Value of the Month system has revolved around our Values such as 'Respect', and pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies related to what this means and how it is shown. The school promotes respect for others 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. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning



within classes and the school. Culture days are planned and carried out across the school at various times during the year. Our symbols for learning help children to understand the importance of respecting others beliefs and values as well as learning how to become responsible and caring people.