

Teaching British Values

At Poverest Primary School we promote the DFE 'British Values' to ensure that all pupils are free from bullying and discrimination in the following ways:

Democracy

Democracy is an everyday part of life at Poverest and we promote fairness by ensuring that everyone can share their viewpoints without fear. All pupils regularly vote on various issues and events. They take on the responsibility of being leaders in many different ways including organising their own lunchtime clubs, being digital leaders and auditioning their peers for parts in our 'Poverest has got talent' performance. Our Year 6 pupils all have school responsibilities including showing visitors around the school, being house captains, head boy/girl and having monitor jobs which they have to apply for in an interview to prepare them for getting a job in the future. Each class has a class ambassador who welcomes any visitors to the class and explains the learning taking place.



Democracy is taught discreetly during assemblies, PSHE/Jigsaw lessons and through current events e.g. general elections as well as our Google Doodle competition where every child in the school voted for their favourite doodle as well as the staff. We have an assembly board outside the hall for children to express their views about a different subject or theme each week related to



the British Values.



At the beginning of each school year we have a democratically elected School council who are the voice of all of the pupils in the school. The school council have many roles including: fundraising once a term for local charities, sharing their views with SLT, parents & Governors, organising school events and deciding on which local and global events the school will support that year.

At Poverest we ensure that children have a voice by carrying out pupil questionnaires every term. We show that we value their opinions by acting on the main suggestions or improvements. We ensure that parents have the same voice in the same way alongside parent workshops.

Since June 2019 we have been part of the Junior Cray Forum. It started with two pupils from Poverest working alongside six other pupils from local schools to improve our local area. In October, they encouraged the whole community to take part in a Litter Pick from their schools to The Nugent Centre. The children asked the Mayor, local businesses, youth groups, police, fire brigade, local football clubs etc to support this event which they did. The Junior Cray forum have also planted wild flowers and an apple orchard in the community as part of this group.



The rule of law



We teach children that rules are there to protect everyone, keep people safe and enable them to learn along with the responsibilities that come with having rights. Each class creates their own class charter of rules which they sign, are displayed near the school office



and shared with the parents via class dojo. We have online safety talks throughout the year to help pupils to make the right choices to minimise risk to themselves particularly when using the internet. Through scenario examples older pupils discuss what to do if something does happen to give them the knowledge about who they can turn to for advice.

We use our Jigsaw lessons and assemblies to discuss rights as well as being able to give our opinions on the weekly British Values posters outside the hall. The EYFS children have a visit from police officers. This includes talking about their role and showing them some of the items they use to help them with their job including bringing in one of their police dogs. The Police also do Esafety talks with Years 5 and 6 and come in to talk to Year 6 about issues in the local community to try and stop gangs and knife crime.



Individual liberty

Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and freedom to make choices whilst in a safe environment. The international primary curriculum that we cover encourages the children to take ownership of their learning through making a variety of choices about where their learning journey will go. At the end of each topic a class 'topic book' is produced and put in the school entrance for all visitors to see along with a 'celebration of learning' for the parents to come into the classroom and the children share what they have learnt.



We took part in a WE are silent campaign by every class doing an art project in silence and then selling the art pieces at our Xmas Fair to raise money for all children to have a right to an education. We have also been collecting money for our local food bank as part of our WE

scare hunger community campaign. The school council were invited to Wembley by the Mayor of London for a concert and to hear inspirational speakers as a thank you for their contribution to global and community projects.



The whole school took part in a STEM day where pupils learn how to make the right choices in different situations. It empowers the children to understand the choices they make have an impact on others and their liberty must not be at the expense of someone else's well-being. Year 3 visited the Metro Bank and Year 5 and Year 6 took part in an Enterprise Day at the Bank of America to find out about the financial world by making connections between school and the world of work, enabling them to develop the knowledge and attitudes they need to succeed, building on key skills including; communication, confidence, financial capability, problem-solving & teamwork.



Mutual respect

Respect is a theme which is regularly taught through our jigsaw lessons and class assemblies with the emphasis being that we are all unique and that difference is to be celebrated. We aim to ensure that all pupils treat everyone with respect regardless of their gender, faith, culture, belief or difference. The staff act as role models and praise pupils for showing respect along with good manners and being a good citizen. As part of our promotion of showing respect for all pupils we have LGBT+ ambassadors



and peer mentors. We have an annual 'Multi-Cultural and Diversity Week' where the children visit different classrooms to find out about countries and cultures around the world as well as children in Reception learn about homes from around the world and made models of them.



The school council lead the anti-bullying week including, assemblies, creating posters, creating children's leaflets about what to do if they are being bullied and a parent's guide about what we do at Poverest and what they can do if they are concerned. This is when our playground 'buddy benches' and 'playground leaders' are promoted so that children know who to go to if they need a friend or want to talk to someone.

A real strength at Poverest is that our children in the Autistic Provision are included in all aspects of the mainstream school. Through Autism awareness week the whole school learns discretely about what it is like to have autism, however as inclusion is part of day to day life the children understand the needs of these pupils and treat them with respect and kindness. We also have students from Riverside school doing work experience with us.



Our EAL teacher works alongside our children and their families who have English as an additional language to ensure that their voice is heard and holds termly parties for them all to come together. Mrs also welcomes everyone into school every day to ensure that she is available personally to speak to about any individual issues or suggestions.



Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

Poverest pupils reflect the diverse culture of the local community. We try to harness cultural links by each year group either visiting a place of worship or having a faith leader come into school to talk to pupils about their faith experiences. We have had Bromley Reform Synagogue visit us to talk about Hannukah, Mrs Anwari to talk to us about Eid as well as Chinese New Year and Diwali dance workshops for the whole school.



Through assemblies and class jigsaw lessons we discuss issues that are happening in the world around us today and try to explore and discuss all points of view with lots of debate and hot seating. This understanding starts in our EYFS with the children becoming pen pals with EYFS children in Thailand. They write letters and make video diaries to find out about similarities and differences between the cultures. This also happens in the Juniors where the children in Year 3 wrote letters to children in Hong Kong.



Please see our school website for more information and to view our class photo galleries e.g. our Eid celebrations, Bollywood dancing, Nativity etc.

We actively challenge anyone who expresses opinions or extremist views that are contrary to the British values and ethos of our school. If you are concerned about any views or opinions within the school or feel that the school is not promoting British Values please contact the school office and ask to speak to Mrs Weeks, Head Teacher.