

Seaton Sluice First School



British Values Policy 2024

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Role: Headteacher

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The DfE have 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 this year (2014). At Seaton Sluice First School these values are reinforced regularly both in class and during assemblies in the following ways:

Democracy

Each year the children contribute towards a class contract.

We have both a school council and school ambassadors. They meet regularly with the Head Teacher to discuss issues raised in class council meetings. The council is genuinely able to effect change within the school – for example they have gathered opinions about the new arrangements at lunchtimes and explore suggestions and ideas to inform the future.

The Rule of Law

The importance of rules and laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced at Seaton Sluice First School. This is a key strand that is delivered within PSHE lessons as well as within weekly assemblies.

Pupils are taught from an early age the rules of the school. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and 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

At Seaton Sluice First 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 informed choices, through a safe environment and an 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. They are taught about their right to be safe and how and who to respond to if they feel in danger through our child protection policy.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community are expected to treat each other with respect. We celebrate uniqueness and welcome families from all backgrounds into our school.

Understanding of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

We actively promote diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures. Religious Education lessons and PSHE lessons reinforce messages of understanding and respect for others. Members of different faiths and religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. Where possible the children visit places of worship that are important to different faiths or we receive visitors in school that can talk about different faiths and beliefs.