

British Values at Coopers School

Our core values at Coopers School are:

- **Curious**
- **Creative**
- **Resilient**
- **Respectful**
- **Empathetic**

These are translated through all our policies and procedures. The guidance given to Governors, staff and students is:

- To show **respect** and tolerance of others and listen to their views/opinions. Have a strong sense of fairness and take responsibility for our actions.
- To be **curious** and immerse ourselves in new ideas with a thirst for learning.
- We are multi faceted, **creative** individuals who are cohesive within a community.
- To be able to cooperate with others and be fair, self-disciplined individuals whilst upholding a zero tolerance regarding bullying and antisocial behaviour . We are **resilient** and resourceful in the face of challenge and change.
- We are reflective of our own actions and actions of those around us. We are **empathetic** and compassionate and understand that our lives are interdependent with other people's lives.

The Department for Education has expressed the need for all schools to embed the fundamental British values. These are expressed as:

- A belief in freedom and individual liberty, democracy, mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths are at the heart of our curriculum.
- All children, regardless of faith, gender or colour, are given an equal opportunity to an education.
- A respect for the rule of law.

Our core values fit naturally into this and to further complement our school values we are:

- **Attempting** to develop a sense of belonging in a national community increasingly defined by multi-faith, multicultural values.
- **Actively** promoting Britishness which also means challenging students, staff and parents who express opinions contrary to fundamental British values.
- **Implementing** behaviour and social policies (respect for others, following any rules, avoiding language which is racist, sexist, homophobic or derogatory towards particular faiths).
- **Promoting** awareness of a range of faith celebrations – for example, Diwali, Christmas and possibly extending this awareness by using songs, tales or rhymes from different countries.

Respect for Civil and Criminal Law

Treating others with respect and tolerance is one of Cooper's core values. These are outlined below:

- All students are taught to think morally and therefore have a sense of right and wrong. This is evident from work completed in PPS time, SMSC across the curriculum, LEAP days and is reinforced through assemblies.
- At Coopers we provide students with a healthy approach to airing grievances and raising concerns in the School Council. We encourage confidence in expressing opinions and views through debates and in PPS time discussions. This is supported by Student Voice which regularly feeds back opinion.
- Students are given the opportunity to take on responsibilities through Student Leadership roles in sports, performance, adaemia and charity events. These then filter into House representatives present in all year groups.
- Whole school events are supported by Student Leadership such as Open Morning, welcome events and parents evenings.
- Responsible behaviour to and from school is reinforced through assemblies and by PLT presence at the school gates, Royal Parade and bus stops every day. Any concerns and complaints are followed up and shared with staff and students.
- Responsible behaviour is encouraged through the rewards system. Reward is also celebrated through achievement assemblies at the end off each term.

Acceptance and Engagement with Fundamental British Values of Democracy

This is promoted through:

- School Leadership and Council with Form representative elections.
- Senior leadership elections.
- Mock General elections.

Contribution Positively to Life in Modern Britain

Students actively contribute positively through:

- Carrying out regular charity work and events.
- Celebrating International Days.
- Attending a variety of conferences.
- Taking part in a variety of activities such as sports events, World Challenge Harvest festival, Remembrance Day assembly and service, Christmas and Easter services, school plays, concerts, cabaret, World Book Day.
- Entering a number of competitions such as the Chislehurst Society and Poetry by Heart.