



British Values at Richmond Hill

The Department for Education in recent years have published guidance that all schools are actively promoting British values. Schools have a duty to actively 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.

At Richmond Hill we are committed to serving our diverse community and surrounding areas. We recognise and embrace the multi-cultural, multi faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom. The school accepts admissions from staff and pupils of all faiths or none. We follow our Equal Opportunities policy which guarantees that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, ability, sexuality, political or financial status, or similar.

Democracy:

We ensure that pupils are given a 'voice' to communicate. This 'voice' could be using words, objects, photographs, pictures, symbols or touch cues. By valuing each 'voice' and by listening and responding to that voice we demonstrate that we support democracy and liberty. We empower our pupils by giving them opportunities to make choices about things which are important to them. We have a fantastic school council whose members are voted for by the pupils. Each class has a representative that is voted in by the children in that class. Then a year group representative is voted in, with the children picking again, in a fun and interactive way. Each class will have their own way of showing democracy throughout the day- from voting on which book to read to who deserves to be their class star of the week.

Individual Liberty:

At Richmond Hill we support and encourage each pupil to become as independent as possible and encourage them to help and support each other. Pupils are encouraged to become good and valued citizens. In each class staff get to know the children very well- writing pen portraits, PLPs and behaviour plans to understand each child, their needs and motivations. We endeavour to demonstrate that everyone has rights; this includes the right to say 'Yes' or 'No' to ideas or activities. Some pupils will be able to take responsibility for particular roles in the classroom and around the school. They learn that with certain rights comes a level of responsibility- and that they can become role models for other pupils in the school.

Mutual Respect:

We promote each pupil's inclusion in activities, settings and locations that are appropriate to them individually to meet their needs. Within school, pupils work with a range of people and interactions with others are always positively promoted on a personalised basis for each individual. This may include working with students from other schools, swimming instructors, speech and language therapists and others. The curriculum is creative and personalised to meet the individual needs of our pupils. This may include transitioning within the range of resources and places on the school site and going into the community to

meet with a range of people in a variety of situations. We believe it is important to be a big part of the community and play a key role in the development of community cohesion.

Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

Being in a culturally diverse place such as Luton gives children a fantastic opportunity to learn about each other's faiths and beliefs and celebrate our similarities and differences. We are part of a school and local community where each person is respected and valued equally without regard to ability, gender, faith, heritage or race and our differences celebrated. Pupils are encouraged to experience British Culture throughout our curriculum. This curriculum includes Topics such as 'Kings and Queens', 'Great Great Britain' and 'Let there be light' that focuses on different religious faith, celebrations and festivals. Through whole school assemblies we share stories, images, events, music and expectations that promote the values expressed. Such proceedings vary in the methodology of delivery to secure interest and understanding from early years to year six. 'Collective worship' is non-denominational and recognizes that those attending may have a wide range of faiths, or none. Religious Education aims to give our pupils a greater understanding of religious diversity and practices, and covers key religions represented in the UK. As a school, we take part in sporting activities which helps to instil 'fair play' and promote a 'team spirit'. Physical Education lessons also encourage the concept of following and developing rules, inclusion, celebrating and rewarding success, being accepting in defeat and participating in activities that promote a connection with others. The staff work closely with parents, carers and other professionals to ensure that the pupils at Richmond Hill are happy, well cared for and enabled to learn the skills they need to live a fulfilling life as part of their community.