

RAMSDEN INFANT SCHOOL
COMMUNITY (BRITISH) VALUES STATEMENT

The Department for Education introduced a statutory duty for schools to promote British Values more actively from September 2014, and to ensure those values are taught in schools.

At Ramsden we understand the need to prepare our children for life in modern Britain. We value the diverse ethnic, religious and cultural backgrounds of our local, national and global community and offer a curriculum and experiences that celebrate the richness this brings to our learning.

We believe that British Values are fundamentally those values that make us positive contributors to our community, a key statement in our aims

RAMSDEN'S VISION STATEMENT

We believe that everyone in our school can become...

A successful learner who believes 'I CAN'

A confident individual who will 'TRY'

A responsible citizen who know they 'MAKE A DIFFERENCE'

Throughout our curriculum and in our learning children are encouraged to embrace such attributes as

ENTHUSIASM	RESPECT
THOUGHTFULNESS	HONESTY
RESPONSIBILITY	PEACE
HAPPINESS	APPRECIATION
LOVE	HOPE
PERSEVERANCE	TRUST
FRIENDSHIP	COURAGE
UNDERSTANDING	PATIENCE
FREEDOM	CO-OPERATION
TOLERANCE	INDEPENDENCE

Our cross curricular, topic based approach to the curriculum provides excellent opportunities to deepen understanding and develop the spiritual, moral, social and cultural education of our children. And 'The Ramsden Way' of taking responsibility for our actions and considering others is embedded in all aspects of the school day, activities and learning

Our school works hard to ensure children have exposure to experiences beyond their immediate environment to help develop some of these values e.g., Inspiring Infants inter school sports events, visits to Conishead Priory and the local church, fundraising for local charities such as the Blind Society or the Homeless Shelter, learning about China or Martin Luther King Junior. Through this we aim to encourage an understanding of the importance of diversity and the need to embrace difference and have the appropriate attributes to manage change.

Although the children in our school are very young we don't underestimate the importance of their contribution to the life and learning of our school. Our School Council are the formal voice of our pupils and meet regularly to discuss school improvement or issues arising from pupil consultation at the end of each year. They send out consultations to families on specific issues when appropriate e.g. 'choosing a new school dinner menu

The voice of our families is also important to school improvement and ensuring we work together to accommodate the needs of our children, in the present and for the future. Consultation takes place on a termly basis and areas for development are considered for inclusion in our School Improvement Plan.

The views of our stakeholders, such as the Governing Body, and other significant member of our extended community e.g., health visitors, social workers and sports coaches are valued by our school and we ensure their contribution is appropriate and considered as part of school improvement, and are mindful of the contribution we make to their organisations.

Our Assemblies re-enforce the importance of 'The Ramsden Way' of behaving as a member of our school community and as part of the wider local community. These expectations are shared with families through our website, meetings at the beginning at each year and each class's Facebook page, where parents are encouraged to embrace positive, proactive attitudes for their children's learning and perseverance beyond school.

COVID-19

We recognise that the Coronavirus Pandemic has resulted in additional responsibilities of individuals and groups in considering their own behaviour and their impact on others. Encouraging children to adhere to the appropriate procedures in school to prevent the spread of the virus will be part of our education on Democracy, Rule of Law and Individual Liberty.

Democracy Statement

The idea of Democracy for our young children is taught through activities such as nominating school councillors. The establishment of new School Council representatives models democratic processes, as children vote for their choice of class representative based on their attributes. Throughout school children are given opportunities to work co-operatively in pairs and groups as well as in whole class situations. They understand the importance of turn taking and considering others in all aspects of school life, but are also encouraged to develop opinions of their own.

Rule of Law Statement

Children understand that there are 'rules' that apply to their classrooms and the whole school Staff try to ensure consistency in enforcing our 'rules' through all aspects of the school day, so that all children clearly understand the consequences of positive and negative behaviour, based on the impact on themselves and others. Many of our expectations of positive aren't set as rules but are implicit in daily school life e.g., having good manners at dinner time. Our Headteacher's Award at the end of the week frequently celebrates those children who demonstrate those qualities that show they understand those expectations. At a simple level our children all know that they have the right to be safe, respected and need certain conditions to learn, and that with those rights come responsibility for their own actions.

Individual Liberty Statement

Much of our focus in developing the whole child is a positive belief in themselves, self-respect and self-worth, so that children see that they are important and make valuable contributions to their class and the school community. Children are encouraged to show independence in learning and to think and act for themselves. They understand the importance of accepting responsibility for their actions and the positive or negative impact that can have on their community, not just themselves. Where children struggle to understand how their behaviour impacts on others, these children are identified and given additional support on self esteem and empathy for others.

Mutual Respect and the Tolerance of those with different Faiths and Beliefs Statement

Our school understands 'respect' is a fundamental community value, starting with self-respect and embracing respect for family, friends, and others outside their immediate experience. Children's behaviour demonstrates their good understanding of this value in their actions. Children are able to talk about the different faiths and

cultures they learn about without prejudice. We understand that, at such a young age, prejudice often comes from the beliefs of older family members and these need to be sensitively managed through the affirmation that it is not appropriate within our school community.

Prevent Agenda

There is no place for extremist views of any kind in our school, whether from internal sources - pupils, staff, visiting adults, governors etc. or external sources - school community, external agencies or individuals.

Our commitment to this agenda includes teachers, teaching assistants and some Governors undertaking the police's online training on Channel General Awareness.

Any prejudice, discrimination or extremist views, including derogatory language, displayed by pupils, staff, visitors or parents will always be challenged and, where appropriate, dealt with. Where misconduct by a teacher is proven, the matter may be referred on to a professional body. Misconduct by other staff will be dealt with under normal school disciplinary procedures.

At Ramsden we encourage pupils to respect the fundamental Community (British) values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. We ensure that partisan views are not promoted in the teaching of any subject in the school and where controversial issues are discussed; reasonably practicable steps are taken to offer a balanced presentation of differing beliefs/opinions to pupils.