

British Values within The Pegasus Academy Trust

In 2014 the Department for Education emphasised 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 teaching staff, directors and members of the local academy councils within The Pegasus Academy Trust have agreed that these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy

Within our schools, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. Each year the children decide upon their class rules and the expectations associated with these. All the children contribute to the drawing up of the rules. Children have many opportunities for their voices to be heard. We have school councils which meet regularly to discuss issues raised in classes and which are able to genuinely effect change. The two school council members for each class are voted for by their peers as are the playground friends in Key Stage One and House Captains in Key Stage One and Two. Children have an annual questionnaire in which they are able to put forward their views about their school.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern each class, each school, the Trust or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout the school day, as well as when we deal with behaviour and through school assemblies. There is a whole Trust behaviour management system which provides daily liaison between home and school. The 'Sunshine Card' system, which promotes positive behaviour, is used in every classroom from reception to year six. Staff within the Trust are trained to use a Conflict Resolution approach when dealing with incidents of unacceptable behaviour.

Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind 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

Within our schools, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a Trust we educate and provide boundaries for young children to make choices through the provision of a safe environment and 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 lessons which address personal, social and health education, e-safety and our 'Values versus Violence' programme in Key Stage Two. Whether it be through choice of learning challenge, of how they record, or of participation in our many extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

Mutual Respect

Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the Trust are encouraged to treat each other with respect. Our Trust ethos centres upon five core Pegasus People values which are displayed in every classroom and around our schools. These are:

"We care"

"We are proud of ourselves and proud of each other"

"We have good manners"

"We are safe, healthy and happy"

"We strive to be independent learners."

Children who adhere to these values are rewarded with our 'Pegasus Values' stickers and are encouraged to earn all five. Pupils are involved in discussions and assemblies relating to what these values mean and how they are translated into practice. Posters displayed in each school promote respect for each other and this is reiterated through our class rules as well as through our behaviour policy.

Tolerance of those of with different Faiths and Beliefs

The Pegasus Academy Trust is situated in an area of great cultural diversity and therefore we promote and celebrate diversity with the children. This is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in our culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. Assemblies and discussions dealing with issues such as racism, prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed up and supported by learning in RE and PSHE. Each October, Black History Month is celebrated throughout the Trust. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the schools. Children visit places of worship that are important to different faiths. Feedback from parents is particularly positive about our respect for others and our tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

Within The Pegasus Academy Trust we actively challenge pupils, staff, parents and carers who express opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views.