**Mill Lane Community School**



***Together we can succeed***

**Promoting British Values**

The DfE have recently 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 by the Prime Minister in 2014. At Mill Lane School these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

**Democracy:**

Democracy is richly embedded within the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council, Class meetings, pupil questionnaires and meeting with the headteacher. Our school behaviour and values policies involve rewards and sanctions; this is shared through all aspects of life and also shared with parents, carers and children from Nursery to Year 6. Each year the children decide upon their class charter and the rights associated with these. All the children contribute to the drawing up of the charter.

**The Rule of Law:**

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced at Mill Lane School. Pupils are taught from an early age the rules of the school. These are our Class Rules, Playground Rules and Safety Rules. 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 and the Year 6 Junior Citizen program also supports this.

**Individual Liberty:**

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate, provide boundaries and provide opportunities for all pupils to make informed choices, through provision of a safe environment and an empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSHCE lessons. Pupils are further empowered through being part of a school council where pupils are given the freedom to make a wide range of choices from what playground equipment classes can have to which charities and events to support.

**Mutual Respect:**

Mill Lane holds values at the core of its ethos, our school Values and Behaviour policies have evolved around Core Values such as ‘Respect’, and pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies related to what this means and how it is shown. Respect is one of our values taught explicitly within lessons and assemblies. Adults throughout the school model, demonstrate and promote respect for others as do older children who have suitable, age related, tasks and responsibilities.

**Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:**

We promote diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures. Religious Education lessons and PSHCE lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others. Members of different faiths, religions and cultures are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school.