

# SMSC

## Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development

### Promoting British Values

At Northwick Park Academy we pride ourselves in promoting British Values in all year groups, across the curriculum. We believe in providing our children with a rich environment in which they can flourish and become confident individuals who appreciate their own worth and that of others.

#### The fundamental British Values:

- Democracy
- Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance

#### Democracy

We believe our children should have a voice in school. They actively take part in votes during lessons and are encouraged to share their ideas in positive, nurturing classroom environments. At the start of each year the children in Year 2 and all KS2 classes vote for two class representatives to be their school councillors. These children then work with members of staff and the governing body to make school fundraising decisions. Children in class are encouraged to share their views with their class representatives who then take them to the school council. The children in KS2 also elect sports leaders each term, via a classroom vote, to run and support playground games at lunchtimes.

#### Rule of Law

We have high expectations of our children's behaviour which is reflected in our behaviour policy. The children in KS1 follow a sunshine system. This is a visual scheme used in all classrooms in the Key Stage involving a clear praise and warning system. The children in KS2 work towards a golden time reward at the end of the week, earning team points to enable their team to choose their golden time activity first. This encourages the children to be supportive of each other and promotes a positive attitude to learning and team work.

All members of staff are made aware of the school behaviour policy when they are first employed and this is reiterated at the start of each new school year. This way, all members of staff hold the same expectations and can implement the school rules in a positive manner in all areas.

We encourage children to develop a wider understanding of the laws of society by having close connections with our local services including the police and firefighters. Our local community police officer regularly visits to speak to the children in classes or in whole school assemblies. We also hold road safety days and support children in completing their bike-ability certificates to learn about the safe use of the road.

#### Individual Liberty

During lessons children are encouraged to be proactive learners and choose the correct level of challenge for them. This is particularly effective with our sparkle, shine and glow system in Mathematics. The children are guided to the correct starting level, then decide when they are ready for a further challenge. They are confident in choosing their level of challenge due to the supportive environments they work in.

We are a Forest School and as such encourage children of all ages to be responsible for their own choices and actions. We hold regular forest school sessions for Reception children and Years 2 and 6, as well as running clubs to use the area. During these sessions, numerous activities are available for the children to choose from and the adults support the learning rather than guide it.

Year 4 children are involved in a project supported by the Royal Opera House, in which they create, produce and perform their very own opera. The lessons are supported and guided by members of staff but it is the children who make all of the decisions.

The school provides a large variety of extracurricular activities which the children are encouraged to participate in. In addition to school run activities, external providers deliver sessions in football, basketball, tennis and music tuition. We are part of the National Children's University scheme, where children earn awards for participating in

extracurricular activities. The Children's University is widely promoted across the school and children's awards are presented in school assemblies as well as at external graduation ceremonies.

### **Mutual Respect and Tolerance**

We actively promote mutual respect and tolerance across the school. This is reflected in our behaviour policy and school systems. Every child has a voice to raise their concerns and worries and any issues are dealt with in a fair and equal manner. We hold an open door policy with our parents and encourage co-operation and home-school support.

Religious Education (RE) is taught as a discreet subject, where the children gain an understanding of the different belief systems of the main world religions. Children are encouraged to actively engage in understanding and building respect towards the different beliefs held by faith groups across the globe. In addition to this, Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) is embedded across the curriculum, as well as being taught discreetly. We hold a Health and Well-being week every year, which is run by our School Councillor, to promote the children's understanding of feelings and respecting others.

We hold a weekly achievement assembly for each Key Stage, in which the children's successes are celebrated and shared. In addition to this, we have subject assemblies every half term to share the variety of work being completed in the different year groups across the school. This promotes respect and understanding amongst the different year groups, and achievement in varied skill areas.

We have family groups, in which children from different year groups are mixed to share special activity afternoons. This promotes the sense of community within the school and enables the children to feel connected. Children visit their family groups each month, when we are fundraising for local and national charities. We support charities such as; Children in Need, Comic Relief and Macmillan each year as well as supporting local charities such as the Essex Air Ambulance to raise their profile and share the importance of such work with the children.