



British Values at Arkwright Primary School

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 this year (2014). At Arkwright Primary these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

At Arkwright Primary School we value the diverse ethnic backgrounds of all pupils and families and undertake a variety of events and lessons to celebrate these. We have found this approach to be enriching for all parties, it teaches tolerance and respect for the differences in our community and the wider world. Underpinning this approach is a range of curriculum topics which have strong links to the British Empire.

In KS2, pupils undertake an intense topic about World War Two and the impact that the military had in fighting for the British Empire. This is linked with the annual Poppy Day celebrations where children purchase poppies and a minute's silence is held in specially created assemblies for the school. In School we also have a visitor from the British Legion to increase the children's understanding of the importance of poppies and the impact conflict has on people's lives.

Children in KS2 last year also visited the Holocaust Centre in Ollerton as part of their study of World War two. A moving experience that enriched their understanding on a deeper level, of life for Jewish families in World War Two.

The pupils in KS2 also study 'local heroes' like Richard Arkwright and the impact he and others like him had on the area of Derbyshire.

In KS2 the children have attended a simulated parliamentary debate organised by the local council. Children learning first-hand what democracy is and how decisions are made in this country.

In KS1, there is a strong focus on the work of Florence Nightingale and how she assisted British soldiers in Scutari so they could convalesce after being injured.

As a whole school, we have celebrated the Olympics, with Olympic themed sports days, and opportunities to learn about the history of Olympians in this country. When the Olympics were held in Britain we watched the Olympic torch travel through the local area. In Cluster sports events the children participate in a sporting event called the spirit of the games, ensuring the Olympic values are sustained.

The Golden Jubilee was a huge event for the school, with parents and the community being invited to an event in the school hall.

On a more general level, the school undertakes daily assemblies which uphold traditional values of empathy, respect and tolerance. Assemblies are also linked to the school values of respect, resilience and responsibility. British and school values are also taught within formal PSHE and RE lessons and reinforced throughout the school day.