



British Values at Ark Byron

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A key part of Ark Byron's aims is to ensure its pupils become valuable and fully rounded members of society who treat others with respect and tolerance, regardless of background.

At Ark Byron we promote the basic British values of:

1. Democracy,
2. The rule of law,
3. Individual liberty and,
4. Respect and tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs.

This will ensure Ark Byron pupils understand the importance of respect and leave school fully prepared for life in modern Britain.

1. Democracy

Objectives:

- To understand and respect the democratic process
- To understand how decisions can be influenced by making decision through a democratic process
- To understand how to argue and defend a point of view
- To understand the importance of team work

Examples of how these are developed and promoted at Ark Byron Primary Academy:

- Class rules and responsibilities are shared and discussed collaboratively at the beginning of the academic year with all pupils "signing up" to signify their agreement to abide by the codes.
- Ark Byron has a School Council which gives voice to the pupils.
- The voting system for members of the School Council is held democratically way with all pupils voting. Pupils who want to be on the School Council, prepare a speech that they make to their class to seek election.
- Classes have P4C lessons (Philosophy for Children) where pupils are encouraged to discuss and debate using sentence stems such as "I agree with.. because.." or "I disagree with.. because.."
- Children are chosen for monitor duties and given the additional responsibility of taking care of others and representing their class
- During PSHE lessons the children are given the opportunity to share their thoughts and ask questions.



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- A key feature of classroom practice is discussion between peers. Pupils have “talk partners” to help them articulate and share their ideas.
- Assemblies inform children about British government and the local MP visits.
- Classroom practice gives opportunities for pupils to develop their ability to work as a team.
- The development of teamwork skills is specifically promoted and pupils’ progression is monitored through Skills Builders assessment in our Enabling Enterprise projects.
- We have clear expectations and routines for answering or asking questions in class to ensure the children are heard in a fair way.
- Pupils actively choose their areas of learning in EYFS during the afternoon sessions.
- During Show & Tell in EYFS the children each have a turn to talk about a topic important to them and have their voice heard.

2. The Rule of Law

Objectives:

- To understand and recognise the difference between right and wrong, applying this to our own lives,
- To understand and accept responsibility for our behaviour,
- To understand the consequences of behaviours and actions,
- To understand and be able to resolve conflicts effectively,
- To understand how to contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in society more widely,
- To understand that living under the rule of law protects us and is essential for our well-being and safety.

Examples of how this is developed and promoted at Ark Byron Primary:

- Traffic light behaviour charts/dojos are used in every classroom to promote positive behaviour and reward good choices.
- Celebration assemblies every Thursday/Friday celebrate and reinforce our school values.
- School assemblies recognise the positive contribution and impact of successful people, both British and globally from the present and the past e.g. the Queen, Stephen Hawking, Nelson Mandela.
- Inspiring individuals are invited to talk to the children about their endeavour, e.g. member of the GB judo team, Kiko Matthews a trans-Atlantic rower.
- Learning topics for each year KS1 group include a topic each year that is focused on British values (e.g. Year 1 Autumn 1: What makes us Britain?).
- The curriculum promotes respect and understanding of the efforts of inspiring individuals from history and British legends e.g. dress-up day for St George’s Day.
- Codes of Conduct are shared with all pupils to reinforce the behaviour expectations.



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- Clear consequences are in place when pupils do not make good choices – time out, apologies made, missed playtimes etc.
- Staff use a restorative justice script with pupils to try to develop a sense of personal responsibility in resolving disputes.
- Talks and visits from the community (e.g. the local Fire Service and Police) reinforce how to keep ourselves safe and the role of those working in our community to keep us safe,
- Resources (especially stories with a strong moral) are chosen to explicitly reinforce feelings of empathy, sympathy, right and wrong – e.g. “Have you filled a bucket today?”

3. Individual Liberty

Objectives:

- To understand rights and responsibilities,

Examples of how this is developed and promoted at Ark Byron Primary:

- At the end of each day there is “reflection time” to reflect on your individual successes of the day and what could have been better.
- Home School Agreements (the “Commitment to Achievement” signed by all families).
- School assemblies explicitly promote the importance of being responsible for our own actions and property.
- Having clear rules about how we walk around the school and behave in part of building to ensure it is safe for everyone.
- Taking responsibility for and looking after the class toy at home in Reception.
- All pupils help to clear away and tidy up after themselves at lunchtimes.
- Pupils are chosen given roles of responsibility – milk and fruit monitors, messages to the office.
- It is the role and responsibility of the School Council to listen to and represent the ideas of the rest of the school.
- The curriculum informs children about historical events.
- Pupils take part in special workshops e.g. a local area World War II workshop at St Dunstan’s.

4. Respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith

Objectives:

- To understand and reflect on individual beliefs, religions or otherwise that inform and interest in and respect for different people’s faiths, feelings and values,
- To reflect on our own experiences,
- To understand and appreciate the viewpoints of others,



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- To understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity.

Examples of how this is developed and promoted at Ark Byron Primary:

- Assemblies and the school culture explicitly promote tolerance, positive habits of respect and acceptance.
- The school celebrates Christmas (nativity/Christmas story productions), Easter (bonnet parades and eggsibitions), and Eid (with a big whole school event).
- School assemblies explain festivals and celebrations e.g. International Women's Day, Harvest Festival, Ramadan etc.
- Visitors are invited to come and lead our assemblies or activities/workshops e.g. a vicar "baptising" dolls in Reception during their Celebrations topic.
- Celebration assemblies celebrate achievements in a respectful way – clapping our peers to share in their celebration. supporting charities e.g. Christmas Jumper Day/Children in Need,
- Pupils choose a charity and raise money for it as a class,
- In philosophy lessons children take turns to speak and everyone's voice and opinion can be heard.
- Positive language for learning is used across the Academy to promote a culture of respect between all staff and pupils,
- Pupils visit places of worship: e.g. St Dunstan's church, Westminster Abbey, Neasden Hindu temple, Regent's Park mosque.
- Curriculum topics inform about and celebrate different cultures and beliefs:
 - trip to places of worship,
 - RE curriculum,

How we could improve our current practice?

- Develop progression map of our RE curriculum and visits to places of worship,
- Keep a portfolio of work we have done that has promoted British values,
- Display more work around school.

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