

British Values at Merridale

Democracy

Tolerance

Rule of Law

Mutual Respect

Individual Liberty



Merridale is a diverse school which welcomes families from across the world. We pride ourselves on being a place of welcome for everyone which is reflected in our school values of respect, resilience, kindness, aspiration, curiosity and creativity. Our school values and British values work alongside each other to ensure that all children achieve their best and leave Merridale with the skills and knowledge to be effective global citizens. The following document outlines how British Values are embedded throughout our school.

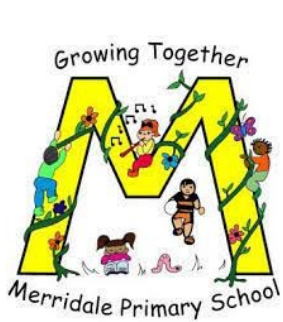


Democracy at Merridale

Democracy is a system built upon freedom and equality, where everyone has a the right to make their opinion heard and have a say in how things are run. In the United Kingdom, this is shown in our electoral system, where everyone over the age of 18 is able to vote for their Member of Parliament (MP).

How do we promote **democracy** at Merridale?

- Each summer, children decide to stand for election to the school council. They make a speeches to our classes and then we hold a democratic vote to decide who the representative will be. Through regular school council meetings, children can put forward their opinions and ideas to help improve our school. We also have a school council suggestion box where children can give your suggestions directly to the school council.
- Each Autumn, children get to vote for our school charity who we will raise money for during the academic year. For 23-34, children chose Refugee Action. During 22-23, the chosen charity was Compton Care.
- In addition to this, there are many other roles which we can apply for across school: house captains, reading buddies, young interpreters, maths ambassadors, peer supporters.
 - Through pupil interviews, children are able to discuss aspects of school and put forward their ideas to member of SLT.
 - We invite outside speakers, e.g. our local MP and Mayor, to talk about democracy in action.
- Our wider curriculum teaches children about different forms of government. Monarchy and rule is one of the substantive themes in our history curriculum. Our RHE curriculum also gives children the opportunity to discuss the idea of democracy .



Rule of Law at Merridale

Rule of Law treats everyone fairly and equally but also makes everyone accountable for their actions. In the United Kingdom, laws are made in the Houses of Parliament and enforced by the police and justice systems.

How do we promote the **Rule of Law** at Merridale?

- At Merridale, children follow our golden rules and school values to ensure that everyone is safe and achieves their very best. These are always applied fairly and consistently.
- Children earn house points and raffle tickets for our behaviour, attitude, effort and achievements.
- Our school values are used to guide children's behaviour and certificates and awards are given to children who display our values.
- There are specific rules to ensure that children stay safe in different areas of the school and different lessons.
- Through our RHE lessons, children learn about the rule of law beyond Merridale and this is supported by visits from the police and magistrates to discuss their roles.
 - We are proud of the excellent behaviour shown throughout our school.



Individual Liberty at Merridale

Individual liberty means that, as long as we do not break the law, we are free to make our own choices, have our own opinions and have freedom of speech.

How do we promote **Individual Liberty** at Merridale?

- At Merridale, children are able to follow their own interests through a wide range of extra-curricular activities. Our annual Merridale's Got Talent show allows children to showcase their individual talents, alongside a range of opportunities for performances and representing the school in sporting and academic competitions.
- Our oracy curriculum means that children are taught how to express themselves clearly and articulately and listen to the opinions of others. Children show our individuality in their personalities, interests and not having a school uniform means that we can express ourselves through what we wear too!
 - Our RHE curriculum discusses the idea of liberty, what that means and why it is important.



Tolerance

at Merridale

Tolerance means that we learn about other faiths and cultures, we listen to different viewpoints and celebrate diversity. We are all different but we are all equal.

How do we promote **Tolerance** at Merridale?

- At Merridale, we love to learn about each other. We celebrate all faiths through a wide range of celebration days across the year.
- Through our RE curriculum, we learn about and from religions and this is supported by visits to places of worship and external visitors to school.
- At Merridale, we have children who speak over 27 different languages and who come from all over the world. We ensure that our curriculum reflects all of our children and that we celebrate our differences.
- Our RHE curriculum teaches us about the protected characteristics and ensures that we recognise the importance of tolerance and respect.



Mutual Respect at Merridale

Mutual Respect means that we treat others how we wish to be treated, we show respect and kindness to others and work together well regardless of our differences.

How do we promote **Mutual Respect** at Merridale?

- Two of our key school values are respect and kindness. It is important to us that we are welcoming and respectful to all.
- Our RHE curriculum, teaches children to celebrate our differences and ensure that we are always respectful towards others. We have a trained team of Young Interpreters and Peer Supporters to support other children in school.
- We are currently working towards becoming a School of Sanctuary to reflect our commitment to being a place of welcome to everybody.