

## Teaching British Values

In June 2014 Michael Gove set out plans for all school children to be taught 'British Values'. These British Values were identified by the Government in the 2011 Prevent Strategy and defined in 2014 as: Democracy; the Rule of Law; Individual Liberty; Mutual Respect; and Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

At Talbot Primary School we believe that our students should learn about these values, enabling them to contribute positively as citizens of their local and wider communities. Through our ideals for the *Talbot Child* and our key *Learning Powers*, we value the diversity and differences of all our pupils, celebrating this through our culture, ethos, approach to lessons and the respectful relationships we promote.

We believe that commitment and celebration of our diversity makes us collectively stronger, tolerant and respectful of the differences in our community and the wider world. At Talbot Primary School we make this meaningful for our students through our program of enrichment activities, community visits, lessons, inclusion links, assemblies and the social, cultural, moral and spiritual element of the curriculum.

Through our Religious Education curriculum all pupils will learn about key faiths, as well as Christian celebrations and rites of passage. Our students visit local places of worship and we celebrate key Christian Festivals, often at our local St Marks church. We have found this enables our students to develop awareness and understanding of Christianity, whilst learning about other faiths helps to develop tolerance towards others.

We also have both a School Council and Eco Reps. There are representatives from each class in school and both councils elect the officers annually through an election. The School Council meets monthly for general business where they follow an agenda and take minutes. Students on the council learn to vote and take part in democratic decisions such as deciding on the school's annual charity or school initiatives. The School Council have also been involved in wider school decisions in the past, such as a new school uniform and logo, as well as advising on promoting our learning powers with their fellow pupils. The Eco Reps focus this year is to investigate ways to ensure that Talbot's environmental footprint is minimised, through initiatives such as recycling, raising awareness with posters and competitions as well as leading their classes in remaining tidy and helping others.

We promote 'Pupil Voice' to enable our students to learn to self-advocate, contribute, discuss, and co-operate. This can be seen both in and out of class, from our playground leaders facilitating peer discussion and promoting positive behaviour, to our Head Boy & Girl's Assemblies where they lead on launching each learning power on a half-termly basis.

At Talbot Primary School, we follow the Jigsaw programme of work to support and deliver our Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education. It has a cohesive vision that helps children understand and value who they are, and how they fit and contribute to the world. These are delivered in weekly lessons, and whole school assemblies with a clear focus.

Visits from authorities such as the Police; Fire Service; Ambulance etc. are regular parts of our calendar. Students regularly visit 'Streetwise' and learn about road safety, emergency services, railway safety and bus safety. In learning how to be safe, they also learn about the 'rules' and 'laws' that help to keep them safe.