



The Cornwall Independent School

British Values and SMSC in EYFS



British Values

At The Cornwall Independent School, fostering mutual respect, understanding and a strong sense of community is central to school life. We recognise that modern Britain is made up of people from a wide range of backgrounds, cultures, beliefs and experiences, and we prepare our pupils to live and contribute positively within this diverse society. British Values support the development of respectful, responsible and tolerant citizens who appreciate the rights, freedoms and viewpoints of others. The Cornwall Independent School is committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment where all pupils feel valued and protected from intimidation, extremism, radicalisation, or any influence that seeks to undermine their wellbeing, personal development or the values of a democratic society.

British Values are important in the Reception as this is the starting point of the children's school lives. It is essential for setting the standard for the children's future learning. In particular, Reception is essential in ensuring children learn right from wrong, mix and share with other children, and value other children's views.

Democracy	Democracy is embedded into the Reception learning by the children having the opportunity to vote on class books and star of the week awards. Children in Reception are at all times encouraged to have their say and listen to others.
The Rule of Law	Children are encouraged and supported to follow class rules and help ensure that all children know the class rules. In the Reception year the children begin to understand that actions have consequences.
Individual Liberty	Children are given safe, appropriate choices and encouraged to express their preferences and ideas. Children are able to choose their activities throughout the day within parameters to keep them safe.
Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs	In Reception the children are learning to share, take turns and listen to others. As a class we celebrate a wide range of festivals and learnt about different cultures and family structures.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Education

At The Cornwall Independent School, Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) education is at the heart of our values and ethos. We believe in nurturing the whole child and encouraging every pupil to develop respect for themselves, others and the world around them. Through our commitment to kindness, empathy, integrity and responsibility, we foster a supportive and inclusive community where everyone feels valued and empowered to thrive.

We encourage pupils to embrace diversity, demonstrate tolerance, build resilience and reflect on their experiences and actions. By promoting these qualities, we help our young people become confident, compassionate and active citizens who are well prepared for life in modern Britain and able to make positive progress in every aspect of their learning and personal development.

Spiritual	Students' spiritual development involves the growth of their sense of self, their unique potential, their understanding of their strengths and weaknesses, and their will to achieve. As their curiosity about themselves and their place in the world increases, they try to answer for themselves some of life's fundamental questions. They develop the knowledge, skills, understanding, qualities and attitudes they need to foster their own inner lives and non-material wellbeing	Spiritual development in Reception is fostered by encouraging children's natural curiosity, imagination, and sense of wonder. Through exploration, reflection, creativity, and meaningful experiences, children develop a sense of self, belonging, and appreciation for the world around them, while learning to respect different beliefs and values.
Moral	Students' moral development involves students acquiring an understanding of the difference between right and wrong and of moral conflict, a concern for others and the will to do what is right. They are able and willing to reflect on the consequences of their actions and learn how to forgive themselves and others. They develop the knowledge, skills and understanding, qualities and attitudes they need in order to make responsible moral decisions and act on them.	In Reception, moral development focuses on helping children understand the difference between right and wrong. Through everyday experiences, storytelling, and discussions, children learn about fairness, kindness, honesty, and respect. They are supported to make good choices, follow rules, and consider the feelings of others.
Social	Students' social development involves pupils acquiring an understanding of the responsibilities and rights of being members of families and communities (local, national and global), and an ability to relate to others and to work with others for the common good. They display a sense of belonging and an increasing willingness to participate. They develop the knowledge, skills, understanding, qualities and attitudes they need to make an active contribution to the democratic process in each of their communities.	In Reception, children develop social skills by learning how to interact positively with others. They are encouraged to share, take turns, cooperate in group activities, build friendships, and develop confidence in communicating their thoughts and feelings. Positive relationships with peers and adults help children feel secure and valued.
Cultural	Students' cultural development involves pupils acquiring an understanding of cultural traditions and an ability to appreciate and respond to a variety of aesthetic experiences. They acquire a respect for their own culture and that of others, an interest in others' ways of doing things and curiosity about differences. They develop the knowledge, skills, understanding, qualities and attitudes they need to understand, appreciate and contribute to culture.	Children in Reception are encouraged to explore and celebrate their own backgrounds while learning about the diverse cultures, traditions, languages, and beliefs of others. In Reception inclusion and respect are promoted, helping children appreciate similarities and differences within their community and the wider world.

British values and a spiritual, moral, social and cultural education are critical to learning in Reception. This is the start of children learning about themselves and the world and builds these foundations for the children's future.