

British Values

At Royal Cross we take seriously our responsibility to prepare children for life in modern Britain.

We promote 'British Values' through our embedded ethos, the work of the School Council, pupil responsibilities, our curriculum delivery and the daily life of our inclusive school, helping pupils to understand their importance and how to behave as responsible citizens in a multi-faith and multi-cultural society.

We make every effort to ensure children experience a wide variety of cultures and beliefs beyond their local community, through for example, whole school Faith Days, celebration events, sporting events, and a range of visits and visitors to school. We recognise that such development is most successful when those values and attitudes are promoted by all staff and provide a model behaviour for our pupils.

In October 2018 Royal Cross School successfully achieved the Lancashire Schools EAL (English as an Additional Language) Language Quality Mark. The EAL Language Mark is awarded by Lancashire County Council to schools that can demonstrate high-quality language development for EAL is embedded in their practice and procedures. At Royal Cross we recognise, value and celebrate the rich and diverse cultural heritage that our children bring into our school community.

'British Values' have been identified as:

Democracy

'Communication is key' – and the ability to communicate effectively in their first language is the most important aspect of daily life in Royal Cross. Our deaf pupils and staff using BSL are afforded respect and included in all aspects of everyday conversation and communication.

Our EAL pupils have opportunities to celebrate and share learning in their home language through music and song.

We empower our pupils by giving them opportunities to make choices about the things that they believe to be important. By listening, valuing and responding to the 'Pupil Voice' we demonstrate support of democracy, tolerance and mutual respect. We can offer support to individual pupils through 1:1 sessions and opportunities to express concerns through the school 'Worry Box' when they face challenge and difficulties.

Rule of Law

We involve pupils in setting codes of behaviour, helping pupils to make decisions and choices that are acceptable to the school community and wider society. Pupils are supported & encouraged to manage their behaviour and take responsibility for their actions. They are helped to distinguish between right and wrong in the classroom, around school and on the playground. The Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Royal Cross Primary School policies set out a zero tolerance for any form of aggression, abuse or violence towards each other, staff, parents and governors. Staff are committed to providing a consistent and predictable environment within the school and beyond.

We can help some pupils to understand the connection between actions and consequences through PHSE/RHE and Circle time activities. This kind of environment

enables pupils to feel safe and secure, promoting optimum conditions for quality learning.

Individual Liberty

Pupils at Royal Cross are encouraged to become good and valued citizens. We do this by supporting each pupil to become as independent as possible, through pupil responsibilities and the work of the School Council. We endeavour to demonstrate that everyone has rights, including the right to say “No” when appropriate. All pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for particular roles and to understand that with certain rights comes a level of responsibility. Learning to do things independently is an important part of learning to understand yourself and for our pupils it is part of understanding their deafness and the things that they can do to minimise its impact. We support others by participating in local community events and charity fundraising such as Comic Relief; Royal British Legion; Children in Need; Sports Relief and the work of Deafway to support international Schools for the deaf.

Mutual Respect

We promote each pupil's inclusion and all members of staff are experienced in using BSL so that no pupil or member of staff is excluded from conversation or learning opportunities.

All our pupils are included in a range of activities, settings and locations. The children in Early Years have opportunities to integrate with other children as part of Early Years events and Stay & Play sessions held at Royal Cross. As pupils move into other Key Stages there are further planned opportunities to meet with a range of people in a variety of situations which include sports events, transition events hosted at local secondary schools, community events and shared participation with other special schools.

It is important that school facilitates opportunities for families and pupils to be part of the local, national and global communities. Families and deaf children often face barriers to inclusion due to communication difficulties and geographical distance. School helps in developing effective links and access through electronic and digital technology.

Pupils, families, Governors and staff have much to offer in the development of community cohesion and the understanding of deafness across communities. Strong links have been made with the local secondary schools to facilitate a smooth transition into KS3 and to support families and children in adapting to new settings and systems. Staff at Royal Cross work closely with secondary school staff to support deaf awareness and a better understanding of specific pupil needs.

Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Royal Cross School is a multi-faith community where each person is respected and valued equally without regard to ability, disability, gender, faith, heritage or race. Cultural appreciation and development forms part of our curriculum.

We place great emphasis on providing encounters, participation in events, celebrations and whole school Faith Days to broaden all pupils' experiences and awareness of others.

Our Celebration Assemblies help all pupils to find out about themselves and others, linking their lives to the communities in which they belong. The themes cover such areas as friendship, school values, helping others and celebrations from a range of faiths and world events. Links and visits are promoted with local communities and places of worship.

Pupils are encouraged to experience British Culture through our curriculum themes. As a school we hold team events and activities that help to develop a sense of 'fair play' and 'team spirit'. Although some pupils at Royal Cross may find it difficult to articulate feelings and concerns, staff are alert to changes in behaviour and demeanour and well-being that may indicate anxiety. If they are concerned about a pupil our accepted practice links to the Safeguarding Policy which entrusts a duty of care to all staff to actively protect and promote the welfare of children.

All staff work closely with parents, carers and other professionals to ensure that the pupils of Royal Cross School are happy, well cared for and enabled to learn the skills they need to live a fulfilling life as part of their community