British Values Statement

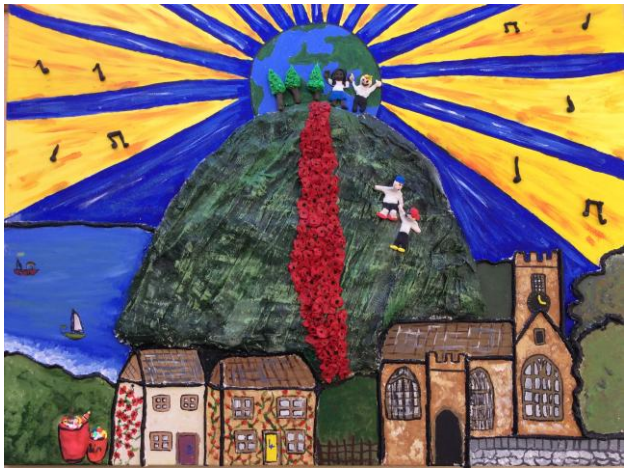
Welcome to Symondsbury Primary School!
At Symondsbury CE VA Primary School, we recognise the multicultural, multi-faith nature of the United Kingdom and understand the crucial role that schools play in promoting these values. Our values are deeply rooted in the Government's definition of British Values, and we integrate these principles into our daily activities through our unique 6 Rs and Harmony Principles.

As a community we embrace the Government's definition of British Values:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Respect for those with different faiths and beliefs

Collective Worship

Each half term we focus on a specific value in collective worship. Over the year we look at our 6 Rs – Respect, Relationships, Reflection, Reaching, Responsibility and Rejoicing. These can be seen within our School Vision:



We also focus on the Harmony Principles of **Diversity**, **Cycle**, **Interdependence**, **Adaptation**, **Health**, **Geometry & Oneness**

Values are promoted in many different ways and children are encouraged to learn, respond and reflect through a range of engaging and inspirational assemblies which include a range of creative approaches:

- Music
- Silence
- Symbol
- Drama

Our most recent SIAMS report in September 2019 stated that:
The school's visual representation of its vision reflects the context of the school and uses the local Colmers Hill within the narrative behind it. This powerful image symbolises the school's outward looking approach into the community and the world. The headteacher, personally, has high aspirations for all pupils at the school. She is unswerving in her determination to enable them to 'change the world'. She is well supported by the assistant headteacher who shares her energy and passion, as well as by a dedicated governing body actively engaged in the daily life of the school.
A key strength is the global development and social action work that defines this school and encapsulates the vision. As a result, pupils from a village school where diversity is limited have an impressive level of aspiration for themselves and for others around the world. Pupils are excited and motivated by their participation in 'WE day' and talk with great enthusiasm about coming up with more ways to 'change the world'. Pupils are inspired into action and they, largely, manage this themselves. They talk about litter and fund-raising projects they have initiated independently. One child summed this up: 'we're trying to make our world a better place for everyone'. Parents talk of pupils' aspiration and their sense that they can achieve anything if they try. They attribute this to the vision of the school.

Promoting British Values at Symondsbury CE VA Primary School

The Department for Education state that there is a need ***"to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs."***

As part of our commitment to fostering a supportive and inclusive school environment, we share the fundamental British values that underpin our educational approach. These values are essential in promoting social unity and preventing extremism. By embedding these values in our curriculum and school culture, we aim to create a safe and welcoming environment for all pupils. We believe that by working together, we can help our children develop into responsible, respectful, and well-rounded individuals.

They include:

Democracy

Democracy is embedded at the school. Pupils are always listened to by adults and are taught to listen carefully and with concern to each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard. Pupils also have the opportunity to air their opinions and ideas through our Pupil Voice sessions and regular questionnaires. The elections of the House Captains are based solely on pupil votes, reflecting our British electoral system and demonstrating democracy in action. We have also taken part in Youth Speaks competitions with other local schools.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced. Our school has 'The 6 Rs', which are deeply embedded in our work every day. Each class also discusses and sets its own rules that are clearly understood by all and seen to be necessary to ensure that every class member is able to learn in a safe and ordered environment. Our pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken.

Individual Liberty

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for our pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and an empowering education. Our pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely; examples of this can be clearly seen in our e-safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it is through choice of challenge; of how they record; of participation in our numerous extra- curricular activities; our pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

Mutual Respect:

Respect is one of the core values of our school as is one of our 6 Rs and it is deeply embedded in all that we do at the school. The pupils know and understand that it is expected and imperative that respect is shown to everyone, whatever differences we may have and to everything, however big or small. The core value of Respect at Symondsbury CE VA Primary School underpins our work every day both in and out of the classroom.

Respect for Those with Different Faiths and Beliefs

Our core value of Respect ensures tolerance of those who have different faiths and beliefs. Symondsbury CE VA Primary School enhances pupils' understanding of different faiths and beliefs through religious education studies, PSHE work, and enjoying a depth of study during themed weeks. Through the children's work with We Day, the children feel empowered to change the world, becoming global citizens of the future

Here are some examples of some of our projects relating to British Values:

Our 6 Rs

1. **Respect**: Valuing ourselves, others, and our environment.
2. **Responsibility**: Taking ownership of our actions and learning.
3. **Relationships**: Building strong, supportive connections.
4. **Reflection**: Considering our experiences to improve and grow.
5. **Rejoicing**: Celebrating achievements and positive moments.
6. **Reaching**: Striving to achieve our goals and aspirations.

Harmony Principles

- **Oneness**: Promoting physical, emotional, and mental health.
- **Interdependence**: Understanding our connection with others and the world.
- **Diversity**: Celebrating differences and embracing inclusivity.
- **Sustainability**: Encouraging practices that protect our planet.
- **Adaptability**: Being flexible and open to change.
- **Community**: Building strong, supportive relationships within and beyond the school.

We Day

Through our continual work as global citizens, we have earned our place at the special We Day event held at the Wembley Arena in London from 2015 - 2020. This has been an extremely powerful experience for our pupils and it has empowered them to see how, together, we can change the world. Last year, we were inspired by people such as:

Rita Ora - emphasized the importance of accepting diversity in our communities and to changing our attitudes to tackle issues like racism.

Professor of Particle Physics, Brian Cox - inspired 12,000 youth that through science we can shine a light on the unknown.

Clive Owen: “If we’re going to make our mark on the world we need knowledge”

Our five beliefs form the foundation of the WE Movement. They guide us in the work we do at home and around the world, together. As the WE Movement continues to grow, these are the standards and principles we will all aim for. With the highest standards, we will make the greatest change.

Me into WE

We are a movement comprised of individuals with unique gifts, talents and contributions. Together, we are powerful beyond measure, knowing that our strength lies in the uniqueness of us. However, the movement isn’t complete without you. We are capable of doing more together than any one of us could do alone.

WE is Everyone

Anyone can make a difference. We believe in the democratization of impact. There are myriad ways to participate both through giving back and our daily choices. We believe in the inclusive nature of doing good and that anyone can apply their individual passion to a collective world-changing impact.

WE Are the Change

We are defined by our daily efforts. If we don’t take action, who will? We believe that our actions will inspire others to do the same. These actions will help create a tidal wave of impact. We know that small things add up to great change. Because, WE starts with me.

WE Are a Global Community

We are involved with each other in a global connection – with our friends, our families, our communities and the world. We ask, what else can I do? We believe in giving of ourselves to help raise a compassionate future generation that looks for any opportunity to make a difference.

On Friday, 10th June 2022, Symondsbury CE VA Primary School came together to celebrate our very first We Day! Our Year 6 pupils have been attending We Day in Wembley Arena since 2015. You could not buy tickets for We Day – they had to be earned by completing 2 social action projects – one local and one global.

Inspired by their first visit, the children decided that they wanted to complete 100 things to make the world a better place. Recognising that lots of small actions could make a BIG change! We are a small school but still believe that we have the power to change the world. In fact, that became our school vision – 'You, Me, Us, Everyone – We are a school that believe we have the power to change the world!'

Piece by piece the children started to build up their jigsaw – one action equalled one jigsaw piece. This gave the children ownership over their social action and the ideas they had were incredible. They would write to the headteacher and ask whether they could hold a cake sale or raise awareness of refugees in Syria. So many ways to help others and make the world a better place.

During the lockdowns in 2020, the children continued their amazing work – at home. They supported vulnerable people in their communities, carried our random acts of kindness and completed their 100 piece puzzle in March 2021.

So, what next?

Firstly, we celebrated! Symondsbury We Day 2022 was a way of making sure that all children in our school celebrated their achievements which involved the local community, families and governors.

The children took part in a range of workshops which highlighted different elements of the work we have been doing as a school and then each class performed and presented a piece to our families and visitors.

The topics shared were:

Climate Change
Cyberbullying
Saving the Seas from Plastic
Education for All
Voices for All
Deforestation
Hunger
Justice & Peace
Clean Water & Sanitation for All
Poverty

When we asked the children what they wanted to do next, they wanted to continue the ripple effect of their work and so, want to invite 100 schools to change the world in 100 ways. Just think – that would be 10,000 acts of social action – how amazing would that be?!

We have raised money to help us enrich the education of our pupils and to give them opportunities to learn about these areas even further. Some of this money will also go towards spreading the word to other schools and providing packs for them to start their own jigsaw puzzle so that they can #StandWithSymondsbry – Change the World in 100 Ways.

Links to some of the resources are on our 100 Ways to Change the World page and we hope to have schools join in and help spread the message. If you are a school and would like to know more, please email the School Office on office@symondsbury.dorset.sch.uk

Our Aim - To do 100 things to change our World
THE MOVEMENT OF OUR TIME
YOU'RE DOUBLY BRILLIANT
£143
WE DAY
THE EMPOWER TOUR
2014-2015
WELL DONE!
WE HAVE PUPILS WHO WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Our Aim - To do 100 things to change our World
THE MOVEMENT OF OUR TIME
YOU'RE DOUBLY BRILLIANT
£143
Young Volunteer of the year award 2015 Daisy Smith
WE DAY
THE EMPOWER TOUR
2014-2015
WELL DONE!
Thank You!
£171.70
WORLD MAP

"You, me, us, everyone - we are a school that believe we have the power to change the world"
TOGETHER WE CHANGE THE WORLD
WE not ME
THE MOVEMENT OF OUR TIME
WE DAY
THE EMPOWER TOUR
2014-2015
WE DAY
MATTERS
WORLD MAP
Well Done Everyone! We Did It!

To see our list of 100 ways to change the world and watch our We Day short video please follow these links:

Symondsbury Church of England VA Primary School - We Day 2022 #StandWithSymondsbury

Symondsbury Church of England VA Primary School - We Day 2024 - #StandWithSymondsbury

Symondsbury Church of England VA Primary School - 100 Ways to Change the World

Our Mantle of the Expert approach to learning about the Justice System.

We have been fortunate enough to bring the justice system to life with our children on these exciting, enriching opportunities within the curriculum.

Please click on the links below to find out more!

http://www.bridportnews.co.uk/news/14841167.Headteacher_sent_to_prison_following_trial_by_Symondsbury_school_pupils/

http://www.dorsetecho.co.uk/news/13353594.Budding_Sherlocks_to_take_part_in_mock_trial_at_Symondsbury_Primary_School/

http://www.dorsetecho.co.uk/news/13886220.West_Dorset_pupils_go_on_trial/