

British Values

What are the British Values?

These values are Democracy, Rule of Law, Respect and Tolerance, Individual Liberty.

What is Democracy?

The word democracy describes a form of government. The word comes from two Greek words that mean "rule by the people." In a democracy the people have a say in how the government is run. They do this by voting, though there are usually rules about who can vote. Democracies are different from dictatorships. In a dictatorship one person called a dictator makes all the rules.

There are two main forms of democracy. In a direct democracy all the voters come together in one place to make laws and decisions. Often there are too many people for a direct democracy to work. In those cases the people elect representatives, or other people to speak for them. This is called a representative democracy. The elected representatives make the laws and decisions.

What is Rule of Law?

Rule of law is a legal maxim that suggests that no one is above the law and governmental decisions must be made only by applying known legal and moral principles. The Rule of Law limits the powers of Government by judicial defence of laws and the Constitution which is based on recognised basic legal values, established in international law. The Rule of Law is meant to prevent dictatorship and to protect the rights of the people. This means that nobody is above the law even the Queen would not be allowed to break law.

What is Respect and Tolerance?

Being tolerant, or behaving with tolerance, means to accept other people's differences. Mutual respect is having an understanding that not everyone shares the same beliefs and values. One of the British values is to respect other's values, ideas and beliefs of others whilst not imposing one's own on others.

We should respect an individual's differences which may be any of the following:

British Values

- Race
- Culture
- National origin
- Region
- Gender
- Sexual Orientation
- Age
- Marital Status
- Politics
- Religion
- Ethnicity
- Disability
- Socio-economic differences
- Family structure
- Health
- Values

What is Individual Liberty?

Individual liberty means each of us having the freedom to make our own choices and do what we want – within reason. As long as we respect the other three British values and the rights of others, then we are free to pursue our ambitions, and follow our own volition.

<https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/democracy/352935>

https://kids.kiddle.co/Rule_of_law

<https://www.sptraininguk.com/british-values-individual-liberty-mutual-respect/#:~:text=%E2%80%9CMutual%20respect%20and%20tolerance%20of,imposing%20our%20own%20on%20others.>