RSHE Knowledge Organiser Year 3/4 – Democracy/What does it mean to be British?

Autumn 2 Year A – Communities

Key Vocabulary

- **Value** - in this context, something we think is important and should guide how we behave
- **Fundamental** - something very important and basic, like the foundation of something
- **Democracy** - when people vote to choose leaders who make laws and decisions for everyone
- **Vote** - to choose someone or something in an election, like picking who you want to be your leader or what rule you want
- **Rules** - expectations to follow that can keep us safe
- **Laws** - important rules made by the government that everyone in the country must follow
- **Rule of law** - the idea that everyone, including leaders, must follow the same rules and laws to keep things fair
- **Citizen** - someone who belongs to a community and helps to look after it
- **Respect** - treating others kindly and valuing their feelings, ideas and boundaries; for example, listening carefully and being polite, even if you disagree
- **Tolerance** - understanding that not everyone has to think, look or act the same way you do, and being ok with those differences
- **Faith** - a person's religion or set of beliefs

Children's literature to support the topic

These books are really great to help us understand the issues we will cover in this unit of work, you can find some in our library

- The day GoGo went to vote, Elinor Batezat Sisulu
- Rosa, Nikki Giovanni
- Saving Finnegan, Sally Grindley
- The magic paintbrush, Julia Donaldson
- The journey home, Frann Preston-Gannon

Questions to think about …

What is a democracy?

How can people help solve problems in our society?

What would our community be like if there were no laws?

What are British values?

How can I be a kind citizen?

What can I do if I don't agree with someone else's beliefs?

Useful Websites:

Newsround is a brilliant kids news bulletin and a great way of finding out about what is happening in politics and the world.



Assessment and Key Points

This unit introduces Year 3 and 4 pupils to fundamental British values of democracy, individual liberty, the rule of law and mutual respect and tolerance. At this stage, pupils are developing an understanding of society and their place within it. Pupils explore how these values shape daily life in schools and communities.

To explain what fundamental British values are and why they are important.

1. British values are shared ideas that guide our society.
2. They include democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance.
3. These ideas have been important in Britain for hundreds of years.
4. Values help communities work fairly and safely.
5. Everyone in Britain benefits from these values.

To explain what democracy means and why it is important.

1. Democracy is an important British value with a long history in Britain.
2. Democracy means everyone has a voice in decisions.
3. We use voting to make fair choices as a group, for example, when adults vote for MPs in elections.
4. Sometimes our choice won't win, but the process is still fair.
5. Many countries around the world do not have democracy like Britain does.

To explain why rules and laws are important and describe what the rule of law means.

1. Laws keep people safe and protect everyone's rights.
2. Laws apply equally to all members of society.
3. Police enforce laws but do not make them.
4. Without rules, people may get hurt or feel unsafe.
5. Rule of law is a fundamental British value; it means that no one is above the law.

To explain what individual liberty means, why it matters and how to use it kindly.

1. Individual liberty is one of the fundamental British values, it means freedom to make choices for ourselves.
2. It means we are free to choose our activities, friends and beliefs.
3. Individual liberty is important for many reasons, for example, it allows people to be themselves safely.
4. These freedoms come with responsibilities towards others.
5. We should use our freedom in kind and caring ways and not to say or do things that hurt others.

To know how to show mutual respect and tolerance for people with different beliefs and faiths.

1. Mutual respect and tolerance is one of the fundamental British values.
2. Respect means treating people fairly and kindly, even when they are different from us.
3. Tolerance means accepting differences in faith and belief without being unkind.
4. People may follow many different religions or none at all.
5. Mutual respect and tolerance do not mean always agreeing,