

This unit of work is designed to encourage detailed discussion and reflection. During the delivery you will need to allow time for this and encourage real depth of thought.

This first presentation is intended to last at least 2 lessons if delivered effectively. You can add your own activities that will support this process. Discussion that develops thinking and understanding is the important thing.

As with lesson 1-3 you will need to handle opinion sensitively as pupils can be quite outspoken. This type of discussion is a skill in itself that pupils need to build

### Learning Outcomes:

- To develop knowledge and understanding of British Values, specifically 'The Rule of Law'
- To consider our right and responsibilities
- Identify our own views on the responsibility of the law and of citizens
- To recognise the link between Character and justice

# Rule of Law

- Consider how living under the rule of law protects and promotes the well-being a safety of citizens.
- Examine link between rights and responsibilities and explore how Human Rights protect individuals, promote standards in living and equality between groups.



British Values

If elephants ruled the world,  
what changes would you see?



# ASPIRE SUMMER 2018

## BRITISH VALUES & CHARACTER



HUMILITY

HONESTY

GENEROSITY

SERVICE

COURAGE

JUSTICE

SELF-DISCIPLINE

GRATITUDE

Imagine this scenario...



Helicopters appear above this classroom and announce the following news:

*"There are no more laws. Repeat: all laws have been abolished. Any action you perform will have no legal consequence as there are no laws. There will be no police or military as there are no laws to enforce. This applies as of now and applies throughout the world."*

All over the world similar announcements are being made. There are no more laws, no legal systems, no courts, no police, no parliament, no crimes – as of now!



British Values



Imagine this scenario...



Helicopters appear above this classroom and announce the following news:

*"There are no more laws. Rep  
Any action you perform will h  
are no laws. There will be no  
to enforce. This applies as of  
world."*



What emotions would you  
be feeling right now,  
freedom or fear?!

X

Thomas Hobbes, a famous philosopher argued that if such  
a scenario existed "Life would be nasty, brutish and short"  
Do you agree with him?

British Values

## Rules and laws

Rules and laws create order and harmony in society. They protect and safeguard people. Laws in the UK are created by government and parliament, and are enforced by both the police and law courts. People who break these laws are punished. Punishment aims to deter people from breaking the law, to protect society and to reform criminals.

What, do you think, Cicero means by us being 'free', by being 'servants of the law'?



According to the Roman statesman Cicero, 'We are all servants of the laws in order that we may be free.'

# British Values

**In our society laws apply to everyone and sanctions are imposed for those who break them. Criminal law is investigated by the police and leads to fines and imprisonment.**



The *Oxford English Dictionary* has defined 'rule of law' as the authority and influence of law in society and the principle whereby all members of a society (including those in government) are considered equally subject to publicly disclosed legal codes and processes.



## The Rule of Law



In the United Kingdom the rule of law is a long-standing principle of the way the country is governed, dating from Magna Carta in 1215

# British Values





The 'rule of law' has been considered one of the key factors determining the quality of governance in a country. The Worldwide Governance Indicators, defines the rule of law as *'the extent to which agents have confidence and abide by the rules of society, and in particular the quality of contract enforcement; the police and the courts.'*

One of the earliest mentions of the term rule of law appeared in a petition to James I in 1610, from the House of Commons: *'Amongst many other points of happiness and freedom which your majesty's subjects of this kingdom have enjoyed there is none more dear and precious than this, to be guided and governed by the certain rule of the law'*



The phrase "rule of law" appears in Samuel Johnson's *Dictionary* (1755)



# British Values

Schools promote the importance of the rule of law through such things as:

- There being a shared code of behaviour.
- Marking and feedback, as well as homework, policies which set clear boundaries.
- Accountability, which is stressed to staff, students and governors.




Can you think of other ways through which schools demonstrate the 'rule of law'?

# British Values

# Most people accept laws...

- ...especially those against violent behaviour and protecting property
- People are less enthusiastic against laws restricting freedom
- Liberty has challenged such laws

Acceptance of the law would have meant that slavery remained legal, that homosexuality was a criminal offence and that women were wrong to campaign for equality.



Can you think of laws which people have protested against because of restrictions on our rights and freedom?

What you are  
expected to take  
care of

Responsibility



What is  
the  
missing  
keyword?

British Values



A rule –  
something given  
to individuals  
and  
communities

Rights



What is  
the  
missing  
keyword?

British Values



Consider the link between rights and responsibilities?

You have a *Right* to feel safe. You have a *Responsibility* to... Consider the safety of others

British Values





## Link the rights to the responsibilities...

### **Rights**

You have a right to a safe environment

You have the right to voice your opinion

You have the right to use schools books, materials and equipment.

You have a rights to fair treatment

You have a right to a good education

### **Responsibilities**

You have a responsibility to respect the opinions of others

You have a responsibility to treat others fairly

You have a responsibility to follow rules safety

You have a responsibility to do your best in school

You have a responsibility to take care of all school materials

# British Values

What are your rights and responsibilities in these situations?



British Values





Is there a difference between a responsibility and a duty, do you think?

A duty is a moral commitment to something or someone, whereas responsibility is a condition of being responsible.



British Values

What might your duties be?



What happens if you don't want to do these things?

- Report crime
- Pay for things we want
- Not to vandalise
- Care for children
- Help the elderly
- Tell the truth
- Love your family

- Get a job
- Learn in school
- Not hurt people
- Keep yourself clean
- Pay your bills
- Others?

# British Values





# Human Rights

- In the past, social behaviour was conducted according to a sense of duty and responsibility to others. Today, however, there is much more emphasis on individual rights.
- In 1948 the UN issued the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- The European Convention on Human Rights was ratified by Britain in 1951 but did not become law until 1998
- The Convention established the European Court of Human Rights. Any person who feels his or her rights have been violated under the Convention by a state party can take a case to the Court. Judgments finding violations are binding on the States concerned and they are obliged to execute them.

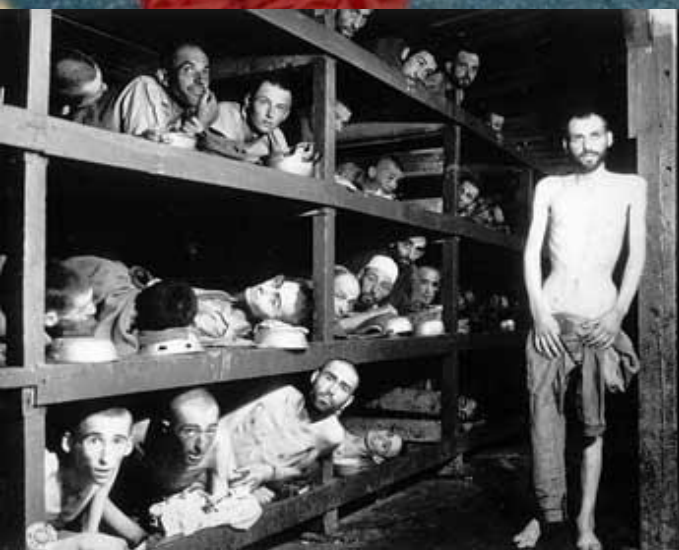
- In 1945, after the horrors of World War II, an international organisation was established, the United Nations. It was dedicated to maintaining peace and security and to solving humanitarian problems.
- In 1948, the UN developed a code of conduct for the protection of basic human rights, this is called the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*.
- It is not legally binding, but its content has been incorporated into the laws of many countries and it has become a standard measure of human rights across the world.



British Values



When  
human  
rights are  
ignored  
...



# British Values



In the activity which follows you should shade the 30 articles of the Human Rights bill using 3 different colours to show what they represent (*some might come under more than one so the box can be stripy!*)



# British Values

Right to Work and to Join Trade Unions	Freedom from State or Personal Interference in Human Rights	Right to Rest and Leisure	Right to an Education	Right to Social Security
Right to Marriage and Family	Freedom from Interference with Correspondence	Freedom from Discrimination	Right to a Nationality and the Freedom to Change It	Right to be Considered Innocent until Proven Guilty
Right to a Social Order that allows this Document	Right to Own Property	Right to Asylum in other Countries from Persecution	Right to Free Movement in and out of the Country	Right of Peaceful Assembly and Association
Right to Participate in Free Elections	Freedom of Belief and Religion	Freedom of Opinion and Information	Community Duties Essential to Free and Full Development	Right to Participate in the Cultural Life of Community
Freedom from Torture and Degrading Treatment	Right to Life, Liberty, Personal Security	Right to Equality	Freedom from Slavery	Right to Adequate Living Standard
Freedom from Arbitrary Arrest and Exile	Right to Remedy by Competent Tribunal	Right to Equality before the Law	Right to Recognition as a Person before the Law	Right to Fair Public Hearing

Protection

Standard of living

Equality

British Values

Right to Work and to Join Trade Unions	Freedom from State or Personal Interference in Human Rights	Right to Rest and Leisure	Right to an Education	Right to Social Security
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Freedom from Torture and Degrading Treatment	Right to Life, Liberty, Personal Security	Right to Equality	Freedom from Slavery	Right to Adequate Living Standard
Freedom from Arbitrary Arrest and	Right to Remedy by Competent Tribunal	Right to Equality before the Law	Right to Recognition as a Person before	Right to Fair Public Hearing

Key:	Protection	Standard of living	Equality
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# British Values

To what extent do you agree that politicians are 'picking and choosing' when Human Rights apply whilst potentially 'neglecting or abusing' the rights of us all?



### The Prime Minister says that:

- Scrapping the Human Rights Act will break the formal link between British courts and the European Court of Human Rights and stop the act being 'misinterpreted'
- Foreign nationals who have committed serious crimes are able to use the freedoms guaranteed under the Human Rights Acts to justify remaining in the UK.
- The ECHR has attempted to overrule decisions made by parliament and the courts, such as lifting the ban on prisoners voting rights.
- A British Rights Bill would be grounded in 'British Values'

### Opposing voices:

- Human Rights group *Liberty* called it 'the gravest threat to freedom in Britain since the Second World War.'
- Film star Benedict Cumberbatch, who with other celebrities led a campaign against the proposal said: 'Our Human Rights Act belongs to all of us. It's not for politicians to pick and choose when they apply or who deserves protection. Repealing it will mean less protection against state abuse or neglect, and weaken the rights of every single one of us - and the vulnerable most of all.'

# British Values



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British Values