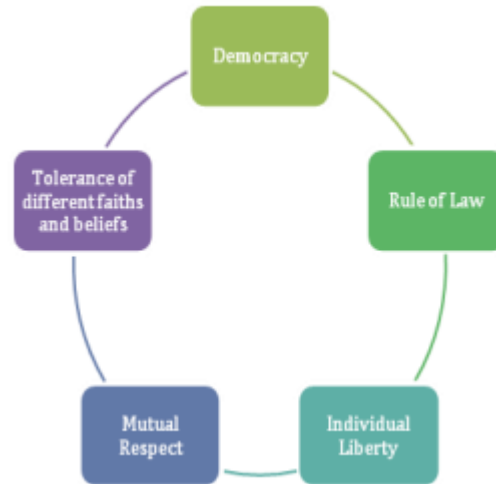


British Values at the Milestone School

At The Milestone School we promote British Values through our spiritual, moral, social and cultural education which permeates through the school's curriculum and supports the development of the 'whole child'. We recognise that such development is most successful when those values and attitudes are promoted by all the staff and provide a model of behaviour for our pupils.

British Values have been identified as:



Democracy:

- The ability to communicate is the most important area of learning. At Milestone we ensure that pupils are given a 'voice' to communicate. The method of using this 'voice' could be using words, objects, photographs, pictures, symbols, touch cues, eye pointing, body language or an electronic communication aid.
- We empower our pupils by giving them opportunities to make choices about the things that they believe to be important. By valuing each 'voice' and by listening and responding to that voice we demonstrate that we support democracy and liberty.
- In the senior school, each class elects a representative to the Student Council, who meet regularly to make suggestions about the running of the school, and decide how to spend a small budget.

Rule of Law:

- We involve pupils in setting codes of behaviour (classroom ethos); helping pupils to make decisions and choices that are acceptable to the school community and society at large.
- Pupils are helped to learn to manage their behaviour and take responsibility for their actions.

- 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. This type of environment enables pupils to feel safe and secure; this in turn, promotes the optimum conditions for learning to take place.

Individual Liberty:

- Pupils at Milestone are encouraged to become good and valued citizens. We do this by supporting each pupil to become as independent as possible.
- We endeavour to demonstrate that everyone has rights; this includes the right to say 'No' to ideas or activities that they do not want to take part in or make them feel uncomfortable. Some pupils will be able 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.
- We support others by participating in charitable events such as, Red Nose Day/Comic Relief, Children in Need and Jeans for Genes Day. At Milestone we believe that by engendering a caring and helpful environment and by learning to be independent can boost and nurture a healthy self-esteem.

Mutual Respect:

- We promote each pupil's inclusion, where possible, in a range of activities, settings and locations.
- Planned events and activities are organised for pupils to go into the community to meet with a range of people in a variety of situations which include: sports events, community events and shared participation with other schools/colleges.
- It is important to facilitate opportunities for Milestone to be part of the community as the pupils, families and staff have much to offer in the development of community cohesion.

Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs:

- Milestone serves a multi-faith community where each person is respected and valued equally without regard to ability, gender, faith, heritage or race.
- Cultural appreciation and development forms part of our curriculum. We place great emphasis on providing opportunities to participate in events and celebrations which broaden all pupils' experiences and awareness of others.
- Our Assemblies help all pupils to find out about themselves and others, linking their lives to the communities to which they belong. The themes cover areas such as: friendships, helping others, going for goals, getting on and falling out, and celebrations from a range of faiths and world events. Our assemblies are also a celebration of pupil achievement.
- Pupils are encouraged to experience British culture and values through our curriculum themes. Pupils visit a wide range of local and national venues, including day trips and, for some, residential. We also invite visiting theatre groups to perform plays. As a school, we take part in local sporting activities which help to instil fair play and engender a team spirit.
- The staff work closely with parents, carers and other professionals to ensure that the pupils at Milestone are happy, well cared for and enabled to learn the skills they need to live a fulfilling life as part of their community.

British Values

Individual Liberty

- Freedom of speech for all
- The right to make our own choices

The Rule of Law

- Understanding rules and why they are important
- Following rules to develop order

Mutual Respect

- Treating others as you want to be treated
- Respect for each other
- Working together

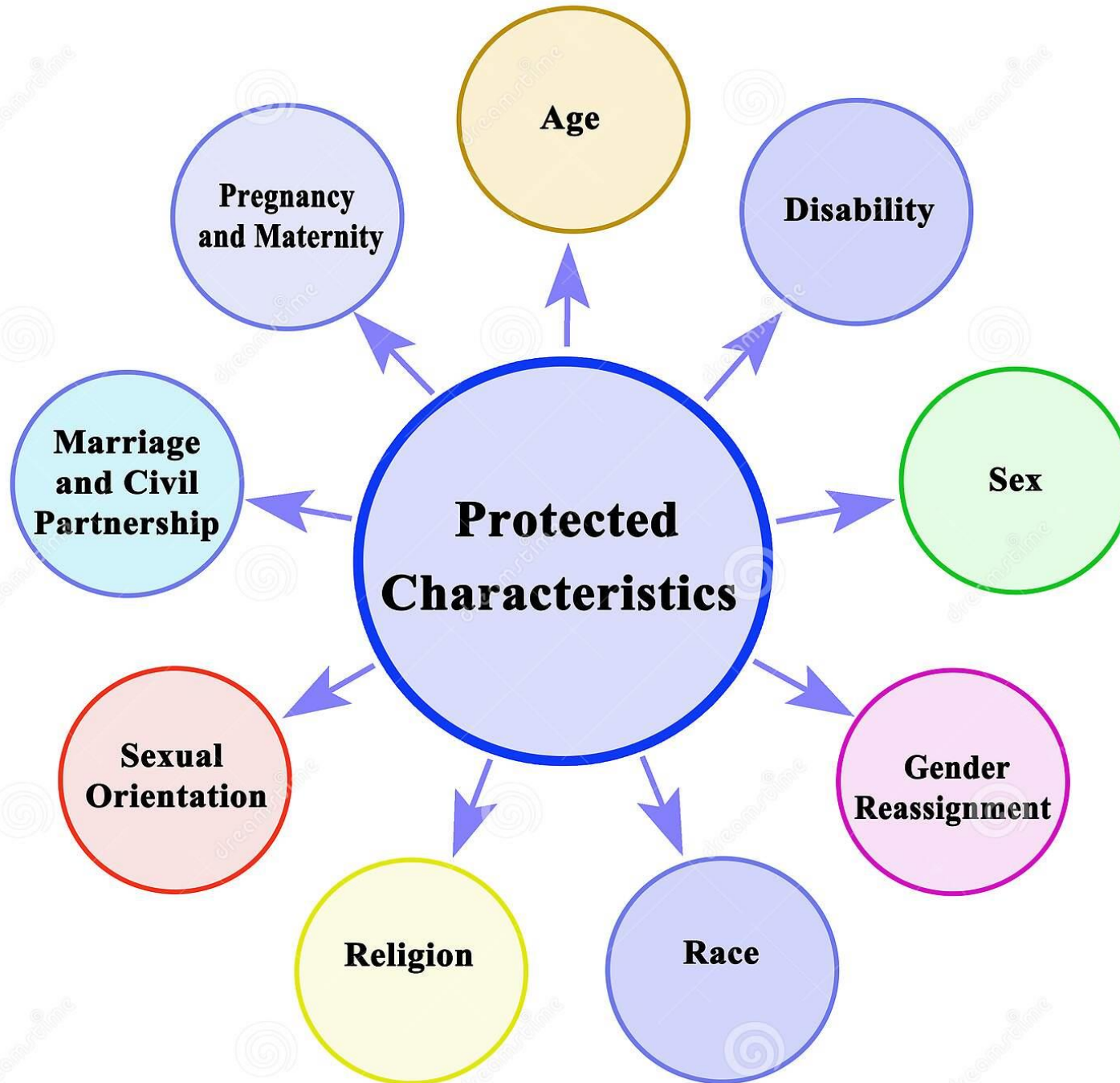


Tolerance

- Learning about different faiths and cultures
- Listen to other viewpoints
- Learning about diversity

Democracy

- Making decisions together
- The right to an opinion/voice



Protected Characteristics



Age

The Equality Act 2010 protects people of all ages. Aberdeenshire Council has divided this into two groups- age (younger) and age (older). Please note that there is no fixed boundary between age (younger) and age (older) as this will depend on the context.



Religion or Belief

In The Equality Act 2010, religion includes any religion. It also includes a lack of religion. Belief means any religious or philosophical belief or a lack of such belief.



Sexual Orientation

The Equality Act 2010 protects lesbian, gay, bisexual and heterosexual people.



Disability

'Disability' includes people with physical, learning and sensory disabilities, people with a long-term illness, and people with mental health problems.



Sex (Gender)

Both males and females are protected under The Equality Act 2010.



Gender Reassignment

The Equality Act 2010 provides protection for transgender people. A transgender person is someone who proposes to, starts or has completed a process to change his or her gender.



Race

Under The Equality Act 2010 'race' includes colour, nationality and ethnic or national origins. It also includes Gypsy Travellers.



Pregnancy and Maternity

The law covers pregnant women or those who have given birth within the last 26 weeks, and those who are breast feeding.



Marriage and Civil Partnership

Marriage is defined as a union between two people of different or of same sexes. In addition to same sex marriage, same sex couples can also have their relationship legally recognised as 'civil partnerships'.