Citizenship

Is there mutual respect and understanding of diverse groups in the UK?

Lesson 5 of 6

Miss Elmi

What does mutual respect in a diverse society look like?

Mutual respect is the reciprocal regard for the feelings, wishes or rights of others. In contrast, **tolerance** is the willingness to accept behaviour and beliefs that are different from your own, although you might not agree with or approve of them.

Both mutual respect and tolerance are essential to building a **cohesive** and **inclusive** society. Mutual respects creates the equality and courtesy needed for **social cohesion**, and tolerance enables the ability to be **inclusive** by accepting and living alongside others who hold beliefs or opinions you do not agree with.

How do we develop mutual understanding?

Mutual understanding is fundamental to a democratic society.

Three essential concepts that underpin a democratic society:

- **Diversity**

- **Integration**

- **Community cohesion**

Promoting mutual understanding

In school:
- Citizenship and RE lessons
- Assemblies
- Ceremonies and festivals
- Peer education

In society
- Cultural activities and events
- Projects
- English language classes

What is community cohesion and why is it important?

Community cohesion describes the ability of all communities to function and grow in **harmony** together rather than in conflict.

This can include having one's identity **recognised** and **feeling part** of a **shared community.**

Why is mutual understanding encouraged?

It is encouraged so people live in harmony, with respect for diversity and for each other.

High levels of cohesion	Low levels of cohesion
● Community projects	● High levels of crime
● Tolerance of cultural and religious beliefs	● Racism and discrimination
● Sense of belonging	● Segregation of groups
● Mutual respect	● No -go areas
● Celebration of diversity	● increase in extremist views