



## BRITISH VALUES

The government has set out its definition of British Values as:

Democracy

The rule of law

Individual liberty

Mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths.



### **British Values .... Gospel values**

As a Church of England Voluntary Controlled school our central mission is to promote the values, virtues and ethics that shape our children's character and moral perspective. We take as our guide the teachings of the Church and Gospel Values that are in accordance with the government's definition of British Values. It is our mission to create good citizens who will contribute to developing caring and respectful multi-cultural communities. The teaching of British Values supports and promotes our work as a church school to offer a spiritual and moral basis for the development of human wholeness. Just as Christian values underpin all aspects of our school life, British Values are embedded across our curriculum and life in school.

Through our curriculum we are able to make real links between the values of our pupils and the lives of others in their community, country and the world in general. We teach about democracy, civic responsibility, rules and laws, the monarchy, equality, freedom of speech, values and virtues, environmental awareness and understanding of other faiths. We do this through PSHCE and RE, History, Geography, the choice of literature covered in Literacy. We also teach British Values through Collective Worship and through the way in which our community is organised.

### **Democracy**

We actively promote and model democracy by:

- Teaching children how they can influence decision making through the democratic process e.g. School Council, School Ambassadors and suggestion boxes. We develop skills in persuasive language in Literacy, write and respond to questionnaires and surveys. As a whole school, we are involved with projects such as Send my Friend to School, communicating our views to our local member of parliament.
- Providing our children with a broad knowledge of and promoting respect for public institutions and services through curriculum topics; such as People Who Help Us and World War I. We also welcome visitors from the armed and uniformed services into school.
- Encouraging pupils to become involved in decision making processes and ensuring they are listened to in school e.g. School Council consultations and our open door policy for head teachers. We encourage Ambassador correspondence with the PTFA and with parents, and liaison between staff and pupils.
- Modelling how perceived injustice can be peacefully challenged e.g. by teaching about the example of Jesus Christ and inspirational figures such as Mother Teresa. We teach Gospel values (e.g. justice, peace and integrity) through assemblies, collective worship and in the curriculum.

### **Rule of Law**

We actively promote and model the rule of law by:

- Ensuring school rules are clear and fair e.g. through our consistent behaviour policy
- Encouraging children to write classroom rules and modelling the expectations that they and visitors to school will abide by those expectations.
- Looking at how the bible provides us with rules and guidance to become fair, considerate members of society.
- Helping children to distinguish right from wrong e.g. by using the example of Christ when dealing with behaviour that is not acceptable
- Promoting respect for the law and the basis on which it is made e.g. through visitors such as uniformed services
- Helping children to understand that living under the rule of law protects individuals e.g. through our RE curriculum, PSHCE curriculum and through focus weeks and visitors
- Having a Behaviour policy that is based on the Christian value of forgiveness
  - Commemorating anniversaries such as to Armistice Day; using British Legion resources and visiting veterans to educate the children as to the sacrifices made by others to guard their freedom.

## Individual Liberty

We actively promote and model individual liberty by:

- Supporting pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence. We recognise that each child is unique, made equal and in the image of God.
- Teaching children to take responsibility for their actions, rewarding children when they make the correct choices.
  - We have a zero tolerance for bullying of any sort – it is dealt with quickly and with regard to our clear anti bullying policy which deals with racism, homophobia and all other forms of bullying
  - By making every effort to meet the needs of all of the children, by providing equality of opportunity and by listening to and understanding the needs of all of the children.
- We have strong quality first teaching throughout school.
- Our safeguarding systems are very robust
- Having an open door policy for parents.

## Mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths

We actively promote and model respect and tolerance by:

- Promoting respect for individual differences. We deal with intolerant behaviour and disrespect as and when it happens
- We celebrate the diversity of cultures represented in the school. Our RE curriculum helps the children to learn about different faiths. We commemorate important events in our own culture and that of others, such as Eid or Pesach, during collective worship.
- Helping children to acquire an understanding of and respect for their own and other cultures and ways of life through Art, Music Geography and MFL.
- Openly discuss and celebrate the differences between people such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, and also those marginalised in society, such as the homeless.
- Engage with both our local community and other communities across the world through whole school events such as Children in Need, McMillan Coffee mornings, Local food banks for Harvest.

This statement was written in accordance with:

- DFE Guidance : promoting fundamental British values as part of SCMC in schools