

ST JOHN'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND

PROMOTING BRITISH VALUES

Context

In June 2014 – the then Education Secretary Michael Gove set out plans for all school children to be taught 'British Values '.

These values were originally referred to in the Government's 2011 **Prevent Strategy** and the renewed focus on these values came as a direct result of the perceived promotion of strict Islamist values in some schools in Birmingham.

There is now a clear expectation from the DfE for all schools to ensure SMSC development of all pupils and to demonstrate within this that they are actively promoting fundamental British values as set out below:

- **Democracy**
- **The rule of law**
- **Individual liberty**
- **Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs**

The Framework for School Inspection - August 2015

Inspectors must evaluate:

- How well the school prepares pupils positively for life in modern Britain and promotes the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith.
- The effectiveness and impact of the provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Planning for the inspection must be informed by analysis of:

Information on the school's website, including the statutory sharing with parents of curriculum information (so the lead inspector can start to assess the breadth and balance of the school's curriculum and whether it is likely to promote preparation for and an appreciation of life in modern Britain).

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development (Ofsted)

1. The spiritual development of pupils is shown by their:

- ability to be reflective about their own beliefs, religious or otherwise, that inform their perspective on life and their interest in and respect for different people's faiths, feelings and values
- sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them
- use of imagination and creativity in their learning
- willingness to reflect on their experiences.

The moral development of pupils is shown by their:

- ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong, readily apply this understanding in their own lives and, in so doing, respect the civil and criminal law of England
- understanding of the consequences of their behaviour and actions
- interest in investigating and offering reasoned views about moral and ethical issues, and being able to understand and appreciate the viewpoints of others on these issues.

3. The social development of pupils is shown by their:

- use of a range of social skills in different contexts, including working and socialising with pupils from different religious, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds
- willingness to participate in a variety of communities and social settings, including by volunteering, cooperating well with others and being able to resolve conflicts effectively

acceptance and engagement with the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs; the pupils develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern. **The cultural development of pupils is shown by their:**

- understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage and that of others

- understanding and appreciation of the range of different cultures within school and further afield as an essential element of their preparation for life in modern Britain
- knowledge of Britain's democratic parliamentary system and its central role in shaping our history and values, and in continuing to develop Britain
- willingness to participate in and respond positively to artistic, sporting and cultural opportunities

interest in exploring, improving understanding of and showing respect for different faiths and cultural diversity, and the extent to which they understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity, as shown by their tolerance and attitudes towards different religious, ethnic and socio-economic groups in the local, national and global communities. Britain

DEMOCRACY

Democracy is an important value at our school. There are many planned opportunities for pupils to have their voices heard:

School Council

At the start of a year, the elections of members of the School Council are based on pupil votes. This supports pupils to understand how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process. The members elect a Chair who is responsible for leading meetings, a Secretary to record outcomes of the meetings and a Treasurer to monitor finance. All members are responsible for sharing outcomes with their Class and gathering ideas and opinions from their Class.

In class, children work together and listen to each other's views and ideas. School Council members have been taught to implement a 'majority rule' when voting on particular issues. Our School Council is able to genuinely affect change within the school for example our recent Prayer Garden and are actively involved in the recruitment of Teachers.

Head Girl and Head Boy

Pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 also take part in the vote to elect Head Girl and Head Boy after each candidate has shared their speeches. The children are specifically asked to vote on qualities which would make the successful candidate an excellent ambassador for the school.

Pupil Questionnaire

All pupils from Year 1 to 6 complete a questionnaire; the results are analysed, reported to Governors and used to inform the School Development Plan so pupils can see that their views are important.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws and rules, whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies.

Our system for behaviour is aligned to an agreed Code of Conduct and if children are given verbal warnings this is always set against the agreed school behaviour code.

Children are asked to identify which aspect of the code they have broken to ensure that this connection is made and understood. All children in KS1 and 2 receive weekly Golden Time as a reward for following our Code of Conduct; serious breaches of behaviour result in the removal of Golden Time. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities, such as the police and fire service are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message.

To encourage and promote good behaviour, attitude and learning, we have devised a reward system which is consistently followed throughout the school. We are committed to praising children's efforts. We endeavour to praise the children informally, individually, during group work, in front of the whole class and the whole school. Children are rewarded not only for achievement in curriculum areas, but also for behaviour and demonstration of Christian Values. Rewards are given in the form of stickers, team points, house points and certificates. Children's achievements are also recognised during Collective Worship. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others.

LIBERTY

At St John's, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for children to make informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education. Pupils are given the freedom to make choices and become critical thinkers through evaluating, reflecting and collecting valid and reliable evidence to make good decisions, for example: how they record their learning using key skills to present information and communicate ideas; or by choosing to participate in our extracurricular clubs and opportunities.

Safeguarding our pupils is paramount and PSHE/e-Safety lessons aim to equip pupils with the skills to make safe choices

Pupils are given the freedom to make choices, e.g. signing up for extra-curricular clubs. EYFS pupils are given the freedom to self-select their learning activities - 'choosing time'. All pupils are encouraged to make personal choices about the food they eat.

Mutual Respect:

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy are based around core Christian Values such as 'respect' and 'responsibility' and these values determine how we live as a community at St John's CE Academy. Collective Worship is based on 'Christian Values' which are central to how we expect everyone to go about their life at our school.

Our school reward system is centred on our four school teams (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) which involve all children from EYFSY to Year 6. House points are given for positive attitudes and behaviours and there is a Yearly cup awarded to the team that has accrued the most points. High levels of mutual respect are demonstrated daily in the excellent relationships between staff and pupils.

In PE the children take part in training and many compete in tournaments. The value of the training and tournaments benefits sportsmanship. Children are reminded to show mutual respect towards other players at all times.

Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

This is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity in our local community which is by large white British by visiting different places of worship (RE) and holding Multi Cultural theme weeks. Members of different faiths and religions within our school family are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance and understanding e.g. Chinese New Year, Divali.

Collective Worship and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE.

We use world events as opportunities to positively reinforce life and culture in other countries e.g. football /rugby world cup, the Olympics, etc.)



Our Links between British and Christian Values

British Values	Our Christian Values
Democracy	Justice
	Truthfulness
	Respect
The rule of law	Justice
	Truthfulness
	Peace
	Respect
Individual Liberty	Justice
	Courage
	Gratefulness
	Respect
Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs	Respect
	Peace
	Love/Friendship
	Tolerance
	Forgiveness
	Compassion