

'Sowing the Seeds of tomorrow; growing in the light of the Lord'



Read St John's C.E. Primary School.

British Values Policy.

The DfE have recently reinforced the need “to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote 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 Government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy, and these values have been reiterated this year (2014). These values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways.

Democracy

At the start of each year the children discuss and decide upon their class rules and the rights associated with these. All the children contribute to the drawing up of their rules particular to their classroom

Children have many opportunities for their voices to be heard. We have a school council which meets regularly to discuss issues raised in class council meetings. The council has its own budget and is able to genuinely effect change within the school. Council members for each year group are voted in by their class. Children in year 6 also form a “Rotakids” group which has elected officers to help them to organise their projects.

Children in KS2 have an annual questionnaire with which they are able to put forward their views about the school.

The Rule of Law

The importance of Laws, whether they be 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. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and laws: that they govern and protect us, the

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responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service help reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty

Within school, 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 young pupils to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it be through choice of learning challenge, of how they record, of participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

Mutual Respect

As a Church of England school, mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

. Assemblies are regularly planned to address this issue either directly or through the inclusion of stories and celebrations from a variety of faiths and cultures. Our RE, PSHE teaching reinforce this. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. Children visit places of worship that are important to different faiths.

At our school we will actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views. Through its curriculum, extra-curricular activities, teaching and learning this school will promote British values. By doing so, we will ensure that all learners understand the values that have traditionally underpinned British society. The teaching of these values will promote cohesiveness within our school and community. We will prepare pupils for life in England where the population has an increasingly rich diversity of backgrounds, origins, beliefs lifestyles and cultures by promoting the values on which our society has been built. By teaching pupils these values we will help all to become good citizens of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

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Intent

-  To ensure that all develop an understanding of the values which underpin life in Britain.
-  To teach pupils to have a mutual respect and tolerance for, and an understanding of the various faiths and beliefs represented in Britain today.
-  To ensure that all learn to uphold the rule of law and support freedom, justice and equality.
-  To help all understand and value the rich diversity that other citizens from different cultures, religions and backgrounds bring to our national society.
-  To value people's differences and respect them including those of different sexual orientation, those with SEND and those of different religious, racial or cultural backgrounds.
-  To develop pupils' awareness and tolerance of communities different to their own.
-  To value democracy and to stand up for right against wrong.
-  To care for the sick, the poor, the weak and the old and treat them as valued members of our society.
-  To ensure that learners become loyal and patriotic citizens of the United Kingdom.

Implement.

-  The school will promote British values through its teaching, learning across the subjects of the curriculum to help all understand how the values have underpinned life in Britain throughout its history, geography, language, literature, sport and games, personal, health and social education and religions.
-  This school will teach children about the growth and development of our parliamentary democracy and its key institutions including the constitutional monarchy.
-  Learners will be taught about democracy and the duty of citizens to participate in and contribute to life in Britain.
-  We will develop the skills of participation and responsible action necessary for living together in harmony as citizens of United Kingdom.

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-  Pupils will learn about the democratic structures of our national government and we will promote civic pride by helping them learn and understand about local government.
-  Across the curriculum we will teach the importance of duty, loyalty and patriotism.

Impact.

-  Through our work and partnerships pupils will gain a good understanding of the values that underpin the privileges, rights, responsibilities and duties of citizenship. We will equip young people with the knowledge, skills and understanding to make a positive contribution to the harmony of our local and national community. We will develop responsible young people who support and positively value community cohesion. This policy will make a key contribution to the school's positive ethos.
-  The head teacher and Governing Body will assess the impact of this policy and monitor its operation. It should be viewed in conjunction with the school's other policies especially the Race Equality Policy, Single Equality Policy and Behaviour Policy.

Revised and adopted by the Governing Body. June 2020

Reviewed: June 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026

Review: June 2027