

# **SS John & Monica's Catholic Primary School**

## **Policy for British Values**

At SS John and Monica's Catholic Primary School, we are dedicated to upholding and teaching British Values as outlined in the Ofsted guidance from September 2014. This guidance emphasises the importance of promoting tolerance and respect for people of all faiths, cultures, and lifestyles, preparing our children for life in modern Britain through our words, actions, and community influence.

Our commitment to fostering a community rooted in love, tolerance, respect, and celebration of differences aligns with our School Mission Statement:

**"At SS John and Monica's, we learn through the example of Jesus to love, respect, understand, and value each other."**

The Government defines British Values as:

- **Democracy**
- **The Rule of Law**
- **Individual Liberty**
- **Mutual Respect**
- **Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs**

### **Democracy**

Democratic values are a vital part of our ethos at SS John and Monica's. We ensure that the voices of our pupils are heard and valued. Opportunities for student participation are provided through our School Council, which meets every half term to discuss ideas and contribute to school life.

### **The Rule of Law**

We emphasise the importance of laws and rules throughout the school. This is reinforced in classrooms and assemblies, where pupils learn why laws are essential for protection and the responsibilities they carry. Our positive behaviour policy helps students understand the rewards and consequences of their actions, while discussions foster a sense of right and wrong.

### **Individual Liberty**

We encourage our pupils to become independent learners, making choices within a safe and supportive environment. Building self-esteem and confidence is key to our approach. Pupils learn about their personal freedoms and how to exercise these rights.

responsibly. Additionally, they are motivated to support various charities, showcasing consideration for others, especially through our Gospel values. E-safety education also empowers them to make safe online choices.

### **Mutual Respect**

Respect is central to our school's ethos, which is deeply rooted in Gospel values. Our mission promotes loving, respectful, and understanding relationships. Assemblies and classroom activities emphasise the significance of good manners, self-respect, honest communication, and fair play. Pupils collaborate and appreciate diverse opinions, creating an environment of mutual respect.

### **Tolerance of Those with Different Faiths and Beliefs**

As a Catholic community, we embrace our role in a culturally diverse society. Our Religious Education curriculum and the spiritual life of the school remind pupils of the importance of respecting and valuing everyone, regardless of their faith, heritage, gender, or race. Assemblies and class discussions celebrate our society's diversity, fostering an understanding of different beliefs.

### **Half-Termly Focus on British Values**

At SS John and Monica's, we have a half-termly focus on each British Value, allowing us to delve deeper into their significance and relevance. Each focus includes activities, discussions, and reflections that help pupils understand how these values relate to their daily lives. Additionally, we link each British Value to Catholic Social Teaching, emphasising how our faith informs our actions and responsibilities toward others. This connection reinforces the message that living out these values is an essential part of our moral and spiritual growth.

As a Catholic school, we actively promote values and virtues that shape our pupils' character and moral perspective through the teachings of the Church. We believe that our ongoing focus on Gospel Values equips our pupils with the awareness needed to be good citizens in today's Britain, laying the groundwork for a successful and productive future.

Our Gospel Values inspire us to follow in Jesus' footsteps by being:

- **Eloquent and Truthful**
- **Learned and Wise**
- **Curious and Active**
- **Intentional and Prophetic**
- **Grateful and Generous**
- **Attentive and Discerning**

Through our Religious Education, RSHE, PSHE, geography, and history programs, we explicitly teach modules on democracy, civic responsibility, laws and rules, the

monarchy, equality, values and virtues, environmental awareness, and understanding of different faiths.

Miss Geoghegan  
PSHE coordinator

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To be reviewed October 2026 by Miss Nolan