



Compassion

Trust

Wisdom

Fellowship

Friendship

Peace

Trinity St Stephen First Church of England School British Values Statement

September 2015

We recognise our responsibility to prepare children for life in modern Britain and we are committed to ensuring that the fundamental British values are introduced, discussed and lived out through the ethos and work of our school. We value the diverse backgrounds of all pupils, staff and families and celebrate these through a wide range of lessons and events: teaching tolerance and respect for each other, the differences in our community and the wider world.

What are British Values?

The Government emphasises that schools are required to ensure that key British Values are taught in all UK schools. The government set out its definition of British Values in the Prevent Strategy (2011)

- *Democracy*
- *The rule of law*
- *Individual Liberty*
- *Mutual Respect*
- *Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs*

“Actively promoting British Values” means challenging pupils, staff and parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including extremist views.

British Values at Trinity St Stephen First Church of England School

Democracy

Democracy is an integral part of school life. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council.

Examples include:

- The election of School Councillors based on pupil votes
- Regular meetings of the School Council, ensuring the reinforcement of democratic processes, the application of free speech and group action to address needs and concerns
- Assemblies focussing on democratic topics such as the commemoration of the Magna Carta
- Learning in history, for example the study of the Ancient Greeks in Year 4
- Enabling and encouraging children to make sensible decisions on their behaviour and their learning

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, whether they be those rules 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 collective worship. Pupils are taught the value and the reasons behind boundaries, rules and laws, that they



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govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences should rules and laws get broken.

Examples include:

- School and class rules are shared with parents and carers, who are also asked to sign the Home School Agreement with their child
- The children know and understand the Golden Rules and the reward system
- There is a clear Behaviour Policy which focusses on rewarding positive behaviour but sanctions are clear too when rules are broken
- Pupils take part in competitive sport and learn the rules of team games
- The school takes part in Anti Bullying week with a range of events and activities
- The school teaches the children to stay safe in a range of different situations: Road Safety workshops, Cycle Training, E- Safety awareness workshops for children and parents
- In the Early Years supporting children to manage their feelings and behaviour

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 pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are guided on how to exercise these safely, for example through our PSHE and Circle Time lessons.

Examples include:

- Encouraging and supporting the children to make the right choices in their behaviour
- Stories and themes in assembly reflecting the theme of liberty- for example famous people in history have included figures such as Nelson Mandela

Mutual Respect

The school has collectively chosen six core Christian values which are: Trust, Peace, Fellowship, Compassion, Wisdom, Friendship. The values guide the entire school community in how we conduct ourselves on a daily basis. These values support and encourage mutual respect.

Examples include:

- Displays on the topic of our values
- Assemblies demonstrating our values
- Circle Time and PSHE lessons



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Tolerance of those of different Faiths and Beliefs

As a Church School, collective worship is a fundamental part of its Christian character. We recognise however, that not all attending will be Christian or have a faith at all.

Tolerance of those different faiths and beliefs is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them an opportunity to experience such diversity.

Collective worship, whilst generally being Christian in nature, also involves sharing information about similarities and differences between faiths and welcoming those from other faiths to come and share their knowledge and experiences.

Examples include:

- Values based assemblies where all can contribute and join in
- Other faith members talking about their own experiences and celebrations
- Books on a range of faiths and promoting tolerance
- RE curriculum covers learning on all world faiths
- All incidents of racism or any form of bullying are recorded and dealt with according to the Behaviour and Anti Bullying Policies
- Regular family worship in our local church where all families are welcome to join us
- Including all – valuing everyone's contribution during Circle Time and throughout the rest of the curriculum
- We have joined the Global Learning project and have a Global Learning Ambassador

British History within the curriculum

Our school offers a range of curriculum topics which have strong links to Britain both past and present. As a school we encourage knowledge of current affairs that are significant to us as a nation.

Examples include:

- Across the history curriculum children learn about famous British figures
- Remembrance Day activities including a children's workshop on the topic of 'What Price peace?'