

St Mary & St Paul's
C of E Primary School



Statement on British
Values

At St Mary & St Paul's, we promote the British fundamental values where British law, democracy and a mutual respect and tolerance for those of other faiths, cultures and beliefs is embedded through all areas of the curriculum.

Through ensuring pupils' PSHE and Citizenship development as well as the teaching of our Christian values, we are also actively promoting fundamental British values where pupils are encouraged to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance.

St Mary & St Paul's C of E. Primary School is committed to serving its community and surrounding areas. It recognises the multi cultural, multi faith and ever changing nature of the United Kingdom, and therefore those it serves. It also understands the vital role it has in ensuring that groups or individuals within the school are not subjected to intimidation or radicalization by those wishing to unduly, or illegally, influence them.

The school accepts admissions from all those entitled to an education under British law, including pupils of all faiths or none. It follows the policies outlined by its governing body regarding equal opportunities, which guarantee that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status, or similar. It seeks to serve all.

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'

- The values of:

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect
- tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

At St Mary & St Paul's C of E. Primary School we believe we fully support these fundamental British Values. The list below outlines examples of when and where such British Values are shared. The list is not exhaustive, and represents only some of what we do.

We are committed to promoting these in the following ways:

Democracy: Democracy is rife within our school. Pupil voice, as well as parent/carer voice, plays a central part in developing school improvement priorities. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through a variety of committees: School Council, Collective Worship Committee and Pupil questionnaires/ interviews. Our school behaviour policy involves rewards including team points. Representatives for our school council are voted for each Autumn term and school prefects from year 6 are selected for each Autumn term after applying for the positions.

The school is clear in demonstrating how pupils should contribute and cooperate and consider the views and needs of others. School Council meet regularly and take part in decision making on a range of topics.

The Rule of Law: All staff members have high expectations of the children in or school. The importance of laws and rules are consistently reinforced in the classroom, as well as through school assemblies. Pupils are taught to understand the need for laws - that they are there for individual protection, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Pupils follow a positive behaviour policy and clearly understand the rewards and sanctions that are used. Assemblies and discussions in class focus on recognising right from wrong and visits from external agencies such as the Police and Fire service help to reinforce these messages.

Individual Liberty: Pupils are encouraged to be independent learners, constantly making choices, within a safe and supportive environment. Developing their self-esteem and self-confidence is very important. Pupils are encouraged to understand their personal freedoms and are taught how to use these rights to best effect. All pupils are keen to support charities, whether local, national or global. They are taught consideration for others through our Religious Education curriculum and enriching curriculum. E-safety lessons enable the children to make choices in a safe manner.

Mutual Respect: At St Mary & St Paul's C of E. Primary School our Christian values of respect and tolerance permeate all areas of school life. This engenders a climate within which pupils feel safe and secure and facilitates the fulfilment of potential. All staff demonstrate respect to everyone with whom they come into contact. They consistently model and promote the behaviours and attitudes that are the foundation of positive relationships. The strong school ethos encourages everyone to consider and support each other and to celebrate the worth and individuality of every member of the school community. Discussions in class and during collective worship allow the children to show respect and reverence to all other individuals.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs: As a Anglican community, pupils are reminded of their place in a culturally diverse society. This is achieved through our Religious Education curriculum and the spiritual life of the school. Collective worship and class work promote the diversity of society and the right for each person to be respected and valued equally regardless of ability, gender, faith, heritage or race. Throughout the year each class studies other countries & religions which allows them to compare and contrast cultures whilst respecting other faiths and beliefs. This work is also embedded in the many other curriculum areas, which are studied throughout the year with a variety of different multi cultural festivals being celebrated such as Chinese New Year. We also often use current and relevant opportunities such as the Olympics/World Cup to study other countries and cultures.

Reviewed: November 2024