

# St Edward's Catholic Primary School

## British Values Policy

Reviewed September 2019

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## Our Mission Statement



...we should love people not only with words and talk, but by our actions and true caring.  
1 John 3:18

## Our Vision Statement

We are guided by our Mission Statement and we aim to:

- develop and care for the **whole child** through our teaching and sharing of the Catholic faith.
- show our love of God in the way we care and value each other and ourselves.
- aspire and equip children with those skills necessary to become contributing members of society and responsible adults.
- recognise and encourage all pupils' individual gifts and talents.
- provide an excellent quality of education striving to achieve the very highest standards for all pupils and, at the same time, develop lively critical minds.
- develop each pupil's appreciation of education as a lifelong and enjoyable process.
- work in partnership with the Parish and families, local schools and community groups recognising that only by working together can the school make its contribution towards the development of committed Christians and active members of the Church.

## British Values at St Edward's Primary School

At St Edward's Primary School we uphold and teach pupils about British Values which are defined as:

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

These values are taught explicitly through Personal, Social, Health and Emotional (PSHE), and Religious Education (RE). We also teach British Values through planning and delivering a broad, balanced and creative curriculum. We have achieved the following external accreditations which demonstrate evidence of our commitment to British Values:

- Ofsted grade of 'Outstanding' (November 2009)

The school takes opportunities to actively promote British Values through daily collective worship and whole school systems and structures such as electing and running a successful School Council. We also actively promote British values through ensuring that our curriculum planning and delivery includes real opportunities for exploring these values.

At St Edward's Primary School, these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

### Democracy:

Democracy is an important value at our school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our Class and School Councils. The elections of members of the School Council are based on pupil votes.

### 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. Our system for behaviour is aligned to an agreed set of codes 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. 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, fire service etc. are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message.

To encourage and promote good behaviour, attitude and work, 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 for behaviour and general adherence to the behaviour systems.

Rewards are given in the form of stickers, house points and certificates. Children's achievements are also recognised during weekly Celebration Assemblies.

#### Individual Liberty :

Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices at our school, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we provide boundaries for our children to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and planned curriculum. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our e-Safety teaching. Pupils are given the freedom to make choices, e.g. signing up for extra-curricular clubs.

#### 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 Edward's Primary School. Collective Worship is based on 'Gospel Values' which are central to how we expect everyone to go about their life at our school.

#### 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. Collective Worship and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE. We use opportunities such as theme weeks, to study and learn about life and culture in countries such as Africa.

As part of our Come and See curriculum, we study another world faith and learn about their customs, practices and celebrations.