



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

British Values

Agreed by the Governing Body on	
Review Date	
Review Schedule	
Person(s) Responsible	

MISSION STATEMENT

In the St. Joseph's family, learning together through Jesus, we aim to develop to the fullest possible extent the whole person, socially, emotionally, creatively, academically, physically and spiritually.

BRITISH VALUES AT ST JOSEPH'S

The Government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy, and these values were reiterated last year (2014) with the DfE reinforcing 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.”

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School is committed to supporting and re-enforcing British Values. It does this by the values it espouses, what it teaches, the whole school systems and process' it has developed and uses and how the school community relates to the wider community.

Democracy:

Pupils at St Joseph's are encouraged to make decisions for themselves and the school. The School Council, which is an elected body, meets throughout the year. Each class is represented by a councillor and feedback from each meeting. Classes elect monitors to perform various tasks and in Year 6 these school wide. All classes discuss and agree class rules at the beginning of the year and in Key Stage 1 Classes decide on what books to read, songs to sing and how Golden Time is spent. A recent trip to see the Magna Carta supported the history curriculum and re-enforced its relevance today. In Early Years Circle Time, feeling boxes and modelling turn-taking start our pupils thinking about decision making.

The Rule of Law:

The School's Golden Rules are used as a focus for all children. Pupils learn that keeping to them ensures their safety, welfare and the good order of the school. They discuss the reason for them and the values that lay behind them. At the start of every year each class also decides on its own rules. Assemblies and class Circle Time ensure that pupils are aware of the importance of the law. In Early Years carpet rules and Star of the Week provide the first. Once a year lawyers from a local firm come and talk to the pupils in Key Stage 2 to explain their role and that of the judiciary. Ideas of fairness and justice are promoted by staff through their practice, particularly in managing pupil behaviour and by setting an example through their own conduct. For the last two years Year 5 have visited the Royal Courts of Justice to see for themselves how our legal system works.

Individual Liberty:

At St Joseph's pupils have a wide range of experiences, trips/visits and school clubs to build self-confidence. Pupils are encouraged to try new things, to challenge themselves in their learning but also in their play. They are encouraged to take risks with their learning and to find out for themselves how to complete given tasks. Pupils are supported to make choices for themselves and the whole school. They are taught the importance of those choices and are given every encouragement to make them. All

classes spend time discussing choices they and other have made and the feelings they evoke. Circle Time is used as a safe way to share emotions and to listen to all opinions and respect them.

Mutual Respect:

One of St Joseph's Golden Rules is to treat others with respect. Pupils are taught the importance of this through play, discussion and by the expectations of them. Good manners are seen as a defining characteristic of St Joseph's pupils. Pupils learn that what they do and say has an effect on others. Anti- Bullying Week, Black History Month and the school's Promoting Positive Behaviour Policy promote respect for others and together with the school's history curriculum teach pupils the importance of fighting discrimination and the effects on individuals and society when it isn't.

Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

Pupils at St Joseph's come from many backgrounds. The school celebrates this through its curriculum but also by encouraging pupils to share their beliefs in Circle Time and class discussions. In Early Years familiar stories are read in different languages. Parents from different backgrounds are invited to spend time in the class talking about themselves. The whole school marked the International Day of Languages by each class learning to speak some words of a chosen language. The Religious Education curriculum teaches children about different religions and the Personal Health and Social Education syllabus teaches pupils the value and excitement of difference.