

British Values at St Mary & St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

'Do everything with love'

The examples that follow are an indication of some of the many ways we seek to embed British values into our curriculum at St Mary & St Joseph's Catholic Primary School and should be seen as an indication of our approach rather than an exhaustive list:

- We ensure all pupils within the school have a voice that is listened to, and demonstrate how democracy works by actively promoting democratic processes such as a school council whose members are voted for by the pupils;
- We use opportunities such as general or local elections to hold mock elections to promote fundamental British values and provide pupils with the opportunity to learn how to argue and defend points of view; and
- We consider the role of extra-curricular activity, including any run directly by pupils, in promoting fundamental British values

We also promote British Values through some of the examples given below:

Democracy

- We have an active school council
- During lessons pupils are given opportunities to express and discuss opinions
- Highlighting the development of democratic ideas in history lessons
- Ensuring all pupils are listened to by adults
 - Inviting MPs and other speakers to the school
- Visiting parliament
- Holding mock elections

The Rule of Law

- Classes creating "class codes of conduct"
 - Having a clear behaviour policy that is explained to all with clear consequences and reward structure
- Organising visits from the police service to reinforce the message of right and wrong, including e-safety talks
- Highlighting the rules of the Church and God in the RE curriculum, for example the 10 commandments
 - Teaching about the development of the Rule of Law in English Law, a legal system created uniquely in a Catholic England, inspired by Christian values and becoming a major influence across the world

Individual Liberty

- Encourage pupils to be independent in their learning
- Provide pupils with opportunities for reflection as they take responsibility to discerning their vocation

Mutual respect

- Having a mission statement and school values that are inclusive
- Constantly promoting respect for others such as good manners
- Reinforcing the value of everyone's opinions in class debates
- Having an effective anti-bullying policy
- Emphasising in RE lessons that every person is unique and "created in the image of God"
- Having active educational links with other schools
- Supporting charitable works (e.g. CAFOD; Shoe Box)

Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

- Highlight how Religious Education provides pupils with a deep understanding of their own faith as well as awareness of the faith and traditions of other religious communities
- Show how Jesus encouraged tolerance in stories such as The Good Samaritan and The Women at the Well
- Celebrate other faiths through 'Faith Weeks' and visiting speakers.