



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School – Promoting British Values

The Government set out its definition of British Values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. The DfE reinforces the need 'to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values.' Through the provision of spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development for our children, **we 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.**

At St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, we are committed to serving our community, local area and global community. In doing so, we reinforce British values regularly in the following ways:

Democracy: Democratic values are an explicit part of the ethos at St. Joseph's. All adults listen to the views of the pupils and value their opinions. Pupils have further opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council, Eco Council, Mini Vinnies, Ethos Ambassadors, Sports Leaders and Pupil interviews. A suggestion box is also available for pupils to put comments in at anytime.

Elections to School Council, Ethos Ambassadors and Eco Warriors are the result of pupil votes and all of these groups canvas the opinions of their peers.

The Year 6 pupils hold peer elections for the roles of House Captains and Prefects, Head Boy and Head Girl positions are advertised and applied for through letter and interviews.

The Rule of Law: The importance of laws and rules are consistently reinforced in the classroom, as well as through school assemblies. Class and school rules are displayed throughout the building; in classrooms, the dining room and outside. 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. Rewards such as house points, star of the week awards, weekly values awards, sticker rewards and the Head Teacher's award for upholding our school mission statement are highly valued by children, staff and parents.

Assemblies and discussions in class focus on recognising right from wrong and visits from the Police, Fire Service, School Nurse and local councillors help to reinforce these messages. Sessions on road safety and Bikeability explain the laws and rules of the road and how to keep safe. We have a group of Year 5 pupils who have been elected to be Junior Road Safety Ambassadors, promoting the new 20mph speed limit introduced in the local area around school.

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.

Fundraising initiatives involve raising money for Macmillan, Children in Need, Comic and Sports Relief, Marie Curie, St Cuthbert's Care, Shoe Box Appeal, CAFOD, PACT house and the local Food Bank Appeal.

Pupils are taught consideration for others through our Religious Education curriculum and PSHE lessons. E-safety teaching enables them to make choices in a safe manner. NSPCC workshops enable the children to explore how they keep safe in a wide range of situations.



Mutual Respect: Our school's ethos and behaviour policy are based on Gospel values, with the important commandment being, 'Love one another as I have loved you'. We live, learn and love together with Christ. Assemblies, acts of worship and our 'Statements to live by' constantly promote respect for others and the importance of good manners. All pupils are taught the importance of self-respect, honest and open communication with others and fair play. Pupils work collaboratively and value others' opinions.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs: As a Catholic worshipping community, pupils are reminded of their place in a culturally diverse society. This is achieved through our Religious Education curriculum 'Come and See' and through the spiritual life of the school. Assemblies 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.

Members of different faiths or religions are invited into school to share their knowledge and enhance learning within assemblies and in class. The children have had a wide range of opportunities to develop their knowledge, tolerance and understanding through workshops on Hinduism, visits to the Synagogue and Mosque and through presentations given by peers from a number of different faith communities.

- A range of our curriculum topics have strong links to the British Empire. The whole school community recognises the importance of the armed forces by participating in Remembrance services and wearing a red accessory to mark the importance of the 11th November. We took part in a themed week of activities to commemorate the 100th year anniversary of WW1.
- Year 6 produced ground remembrance in our local community by leading a liturgy in the graveyard beside school and read out the names of every local boy who died in WWI and WWII. The local war graces are then blessed; this brings the ages of the young men to life for our pupils whilst also keeping their names alive for our local community.
- In Year 6, pupils undertake an intense topic about World War Two and the impact that the military had in fighting for the British Empire. They explore the impact of the war through the Jewish Holocaust. This is linked with Remembrance and the annual Poppy Day celebrations where children purchase poppies and a minute's silence is held in a thought provoking assembly, prepared by Mini Vinnies.
- Year 5 attend a wide range of learning opportunities at our feeder Senior School and explore many aspects of working together with peers from other schools.
- Reception Class study events within recent memory. PSE is a prime area of learning and through this area the children are introduced to class rules, turn taking, sharing, tolerance and understanding. They are given a wide range of opportunities to develop in this area through visitors to their class, visits out and through our 'Buddies' programme.

As a whole school we work extremely hard to participate in local, national and global projects. Enterprise and fundraising opportunities are always high on the agenda. (Children in Need/ Poppy Appeal / Help the Heroes/ Comic & Sport Relief / Shoe Box Appeal / Marie Curie/ Macmillan/ Cafod/ British Heart Foundation/ Rag Bag Collections / PACT House / Local Foodbanks etc.)

We celebrated the London 2012 Olympics and the Rio 2016 Olympics. There have been opportunities for Olympic themed sports days, competitions to design sports kits and opportunities to learn about the history of Olympians. In 2018, we welcomed into school, the 2012 Judo Silver Medallist, Gemma Gibbons, who lead assemblies and workshops.

We celebrated the wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and the births of Prince George and Princess Charlotte. The Queen's Diamond Jubilee was an event for the school, with a 'street party' event held in the playgrounds. We held a red, white and blue day to commemorate Queen Elizabeth's reign as the longest serving British monarch. Last year, we acknowledged the wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex in a whole school assembly.



We give the children opportunities to think about their future through Senior School links and through our annual careers week.

On a more general level, the school undertakes weekly assemblies and class discussions which uphold the traditional values of empathy, respect and tolerance. These are also taught within formal SEAL, PSHE and RE lessons and on an informal nature throughout the school day.