



British Values Policy 2021



St Gerard's Catholic Primary School

"Guided by God, St Gerard's Catholic Primary and Nursery School is an inspiring and aspirational community where we learn to love, hope, dream and achieve."



Policy Date:	February 2021
Policy Status:	Statutory
Policy Review Cycle:	Biennial
Next Review Date:	February 2022

Responsible to:
Governors and Head Teacher

POLICY FOR PROMOTING BRITISH VALUES

Introduction

In 2013 the Department for Education said “Keeping our children safe and ensuring schools prepare them for life in modern Britain could not be more important. This change is an important step towards ensuring we have a strong legal basis for intervening in those schools where this is an issue.”

“The vast majority of schools already promote British values. This is about making sure we have the tools we need to intervene if children are being let down. Schools are required to actively promote and not undermine “British Values”.

British Values are set out as:

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

As a Catholic School we actively promote values, virtues and ethics that shape our pupils character and moral perspective, through the teachings of the Church. We are confident that our continued focus on the Gospel Values will give our pupils the necessary awareness of what it means to be a good citizen in Britain today, and embed in them the building blocks of a future successful and productive life.

Through our RE, PSHE, SEAL, Geography and promoting The Common Good we are able to make real links between the values of our pupils and the lives of others in their community, country and the world in general. Through our creative Curriculum we teach about democracy, civic responsibility (being part of making rules and looking after the world around us), rules and laws, equality, values and virtues, environmental awareness (eco-schools) and understanding of other faiths through visits to places of worship, different learning activities and visitors to school.

As a school, we believe it is vital that we are at the heart of our community. This means serving our community and ensuring our children are active members of their community: the school, the local, national and the global community. We recognise the multi-cultural and multi-faith nature of the wider community in the United Kingdom and the challenges our young people face in modern Britain. Our aim is to ensure our children are prepared for the next stage of life in today’s ever-changing world by living our mission statement – ensuring that St. Gerard's Catholic Primary and Nursery School is an inspiring and aspirational community where all children have the freedom and choice to love, hope, dream and achieve.

Through its curriculum, extra-curricular activities, teaching and learning this school will promote British values. By doing so, we will ensure that all learners understand the values that have traditionally underpinned British society. The teaching of these values will promote cohesiveness within our school and community. We will prepare pupils for life in England where the population has an increasingly rich diversity of backgrounds, origins, beliefs and cultures by promoting the values on which our society has been built. By teaching pupils these values we will help all to become good citizens of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

OBJECTIVES

1. To ensure that all develop an understanding of the values which underpin life in Britain.
2. To teach pupils to have a mutual respect and tolerance for, and an understanding of the various faiths and beliefs represented in Britain today.
3. To ensure that all learn to uphold the rule of law and support freedom, justice and equality. To know the difference between religious law and judicial law.
4. To help all understand and value the rich diversity that other citizens from different cultures, religions and backgrounds bring to our national society.
5. To value people's differences and respect them.
6. To develop pupils' awareness and tolerance of communities different to their own.
7. To value democracy and to stand up for right against wrong.
8. To care for the sick, the poor, the weak and the old and treat them as valued members of our society.
9. To ensure that learners become loyal and patriotic citizens of the United Kingdom.

STRATEGIES

1. The school will promote British values through its teaching, assemblies, visits and extracurricular activities learning across the subjects of the curriculum to help all understand how the values have underpinned life in Britain throughout its history, geography, language, literature, sport and games, personal and social education and religions.
2. Introducing the values of human rights, tolerance and celebrating differences through Philosophy for Children.
3. This school will teach children about the growth and development of our parliamentary democracy and its key institutions including the constitutional monarchy.
4. Learners will be taught about democracy and universal suffrage and the duty of citizens to participate in and contribute to life in Britain.
5. We will develop the skills of participation and responsible action necessary for living together in harmony as citizens of United Kingdom.
6. Pupils will learn about the democratic structures of our national government and we will promote civic pride by helping them learn and understand about local government.
7. Across the curriculum we will teach the importance of duty, loyalty and patriotism.

OUTCOMES

Through our work and partnerships pupils will gain a good understanding of the values that underpin the privileges, rights, responsibilities and duties of citizenship. We will equip young people with the knowledge, skills and understanding to make a positive contribution to the harmony of our local and national community. We will develop responsible young people who support and positively value community cohesion. This policy will make a key contribution to the school's positive ethos. The head teacher and Governing Body will assess the impact of this policy and monitor its operation. It should be viewed in conjunction with the school's other policies especially the Race and Equality Policy, Equal Opportunities Policy, Citizenship Policy and Behaviour Policy.

Agreed by Governing Body: February 2021