

British Values Policy



St Catherine's Catholic Academy September 2022

Our Mission is to behave in the way Jesus taught us. He said "I have set you an example: that you learn that you are all equal, that the Master is no more important than the servant, and that you should behave kindly and humbly towards each other."

Date of Update – September 2022

Date of next Review – September 2023

We aim to provide a vibrant environment for learning which encompasses all that the local area and wider world has to offer. We aim to draw on local expertise and explore the neighbouring environment while also ensuring that children's experiences stretch much further than their own doorstep. Children feel safe in their environment and have a positive attitude to learning.

We foster a culture which develops social skills and self-awareness, while placing equal value in strong communication and cultural sensitivity.

The DfE have recently reinforced 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."

Our school has firmly adopted these principles and ensure they underpin all aspects of our taught curriculum and our wider school life.

Democracy

Every member of our school community has a voice and we regularly seek the opinions of our stakeholders on a whole range of decisions. At the start of every school year, each class are given the opportunity to share their views on the rules that should be in place for that specifically relate to their classroom.

Our **democratically elected School Council** represent the views of the children within the school and they regularly consult the class to gain their perspective on any proposed changes or events that will affect them.

Our children are often given the chance to complete surveys and questionnaires on issues such as E-Safety, Breakfast Club, Playground Games and their perception of how well they are doing at school.

The **Governors** form an elected body that represent the staff, parents, local parish community to lead the school along with the Headteacher and staff from the school. They make informed decisions that are based on what is best for the children at the school. Parent questionnaires are arranged, to give parents the opportunity to have their voice heard.

The Rule of Law

Our school has a system of basic rules that govern the behaviour of all members of our school community in order to allow the school to run in a safe and successful manner. Our school values are built around the three Rs: **Respect, Rights and Responsibilities**. These are used to support behaviour and we celebrate examples of how and where members of our community demonstrate these values.

Consistency of our principles and laws, with a degree of flexibility as appropriate, is fundamental to supporting the diverse needs of our school community. Alongside our own

school systems we promote the national rules and laws that ensure all people living in Great Britain can enjoy their life in a safe and organised manner, while enjoying the freedom and liberty as such a fundamental principle of British life.

Individual Liberty

We celebrate and congratulate individuality and diversity within our school, and offer a wide range of opportunities for children to express their own personality. This happens throughout the curriculum and in the range of extracurricular activities organised by the school.

Through our values-based education, we aim to develop children's understanding of how to express their own personality and freedoms in a safe environment, while respecting and acknowledging the views of others.

Equality is a principle which is embedded within the fabric of the school and all of its community members.

Mutual Respect

Our core value of 'respect' and the importance of showing respect underpins this crucial element and is regularly referred to through assemblies, all curriculum lessons and school rules. The term '**Respect**' features throughout our Behaviour Policy and is used in discussion with children in relation to the members of our school community, the local environment and the wider society beyond.

By utilising the diversity of our own school community, and through links with schools and communities in contrasting parts of the world, the children in our school learn about the range of beliefs and traditions that make up our diverse and fascinating nation.

Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Our school's ethos outlines our vision to ensure that the children of St Catherine's become valued and successful members of the global community. We live in a culturally diverse society and it is imperative that all children establish an understanding and tolerance for those within our local and wider community who may have a different faith or belief.

Our curriculum outlines the background and cultures from around the world, and promotes the benefits of the global community we live in. By following the Hallam Diocese 'Come and See' syllabus and further Religious Education, PSHE and P4C teaching, all children learn about a wide range of religions and the belief structures they follow. Additionally, we encourage children from within our school community to share their beliefs with their peers. Equality and tolerance are fundamental elements of our school ethos.

Stakeholder Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of every member of our school community to ensure that we all follow the principles outlined in all of our policies and procedures. We welcome any contribution to our assemblies or to talk to specific groups about different faiths and beliefs. Additionally,

should stakeholders, including parents and carers, feel that the school or any member of the school team is not upholding these values, we encourage them to raise concerns with the Headteacher or Chair of Governors.

How do we promote British Values at St Catherine's?

Individual Liberty

- School council
- RSE
- Out of school awards
- TTYP (Talk to your partner)
- RE reflections
- Prayer journals
- Collective Worship
- Choosing own learning
- Pupil Voice
- Topic homework/homework
- Class show and tell

Democracy

- School council
- Voting for rewards
- Voting for roles
- Choice in learning
- Fairness
- Debating
- Children involved in interview process
- Playground leaders

Rule of Law

- School and classroom rules
- Crucial Crew trip
- Policies
- Online Safety
- Behaviour/reward system
- Road safety/fire safety talks
- Election systems and current events

During PHSE assemblies, children have the opportunity to link the focus of each assembly to the Fundamental British Values. For example, in KS1 assembly celebrating the diversity of our community, children are given the opportunity to consider how this links to the fundamental British Values of 'mutual respect' and 'tolerance'. In a KS2 assembly discussing online abuse, children are given the opportunity to consider how this links to the fundamental British Value 'rule of law' and 'Individual Liberty'.

