



St. Francis Xavier's RC Primary School

Love one another as I have loved you

British Values Policy

Our Mission

Share God's love with one another

Follow your dreams

EXcel in citizenship

Our Mission is to:

- Be a witness to the values, teaching and beliefs of the Roman Catholic Church
- Promote achievement and enjoyment for all
- Expect the best for individuals
- Inspire learning
- Collaborate with the community
- Promote a healthy and safe life style
- Create a sustainable school
- Continually strive to be effective

Justification

The DfE states that there is a 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'. At St Francis Xavier's RC Primary School we strive to promote British values through our embedded ethos, our curriculum delivery and the daily life of our school, helping pupils to understand their importance and how to apply them to their behaviour as responsible citizens in a multi-cultural and multi-faith society.

Aims

- To enable children to know and understand the following five key British values that under-pin their role as responsible members of our school community and wider society.
They are:
Democracy
Individual Liberty
The Rule of Law
Mutual Respect
Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs
- To ensure that democratic systems and processes are embedded in the school's systems and practices.
- To ensure that children are actively encouraged and given the freedom to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment that provides an empowering education where rights and responsibilities are central to the ethos of the school.
- To ensure that children appreciate the importance of laws whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country and that these are consistently reinforced in all aspects of school life.
- To ensure that 'Respect' is one of our school's core values, where pupils excel in citizenship and actively demonstrate respect in all aspects of daily life.
- To ensure that the diverse community the school serves is a source of pride and strength and that tolerance is actively demonstrated, promoted and expected at all levels of the organisation.

Objectives

- To ensure children have the opportunity to have their voices heard through the curriculum, school events, classroom activities, Eco Council and School Council.
- To provide a rich and diverse education and a framework of boundaries for our children within which they can make choices safely, based on their knowledge, understanding and exercise of their rights, responsibilities and personal freedoms as members of our school community.
- To ensure that the mutually agreed school rules and values are deeply embedded in our daily work and everyday practices.
- To ensure that respect is truly mutual and 'alive' in all the school's relationships, both internally and within the wider community.
- To ensure that tolerance is an integral part of the life of the school, actively taught through the curriculum and consistently demonstrated and expected.

Statements

- School leaders will listen to and respect the views of all stakeholders and reach decisions which take them all into account.
- We will encourage the children's knowledge and understanding of their rights and personal freedoms and advise them how to exercise them responsibly and safely, particularly through our e-safety training.
- We will encourage individual and collective responsibility through leadership opportunities eg: heads and deputies, house captains, prefects, class monitors and offer the freedom to choose from a wide range of extra curricular activities.
- We will ensure our PSHE curriculum programme has a specific learning focus on 'Democracy and Law' and 'Liberty & Respect' with properly graded, age-appropriate studies across the age range.
- We will ensure that the need for rules and laws is fully explained and that children are systematically taught, through PSHE and assemblies, that they are for our protection and safety and bring with them rights and responsibilities as well as consequences when they are broken.
- We will ensure that the core values at the heart of our school ethos and behaviour management policy promote respect and children are taught what respect means, why it is important and how it is shown. This will be done both explicitly in both lessons and focused assemblies and implicitly through our consistently demonstrated behaviours and expectations.
- We will deliver regular assemblies and provide frequent discussion opportunities to consider tolerance together with prejudice and prejudice-based bullying; its causes and its solutions. This will be supported by our spiritual, moral, social and cultural development activities which are threaded throughout our curriculum framework and our religious education programmes of study.

Cross Curricular Links

The school will promote British values through its teaching and learning across the subjects of the curriculum to help all children understand how the values have underpinned life in Britain throughout its history, geography, language, literature, sport and games, the arts, personal and social education and religions. Through history studies, children will learn about the growth of our parliamentary democracy and its key institutions, including the constitutional monarchy, at an age-appropriate level. They will also learn about the democratic structures of our national government and we will promote civic pride by helping them to learn and understand about local government works. Through our shared organisation and management of the school as a functioning community, learners will be taught about democracy and the duty of citizens to participate in and contribute to life in Britain. This will also serve to develop the skills of participation and responsible action necessary for living together in harmony as citizens of the United Kingdom. Across the curriculum we will teach the importance of duty, loyalty and patriotism.

Embedding British Values

Democracy

Democracy is common within the school where the promotion of democratic processes, fostering the concept and application of freedom of speech and group action to address needs and concerns are heard through our School Council, Eco Council and through pupil questionnaires. The annual election of heads, deputy heads, house captains and prefects provides children with a first-hand experience of the democratic process at work.

Also key to this is the concept of holding others to account, including those in positions of authority and influence. The school behaviour policy involves rewards and sanctions and an individual pupil making choices about their behaviour.

Rule of Law

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken.

Individual Liberty

Within school pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and empowering education.

Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely; for example through E-Safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it is through choice of challenge, of how they record, where they work, how they present their learning outcomes or participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, all pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

Mutual Respect

Respect is embedded through the gospel values and the teaching of the Catholic Church. Respect is reiterated through the school and classroom rules and the behaviour policy. Respect is expected at all times in school by pupils and staff and is promoted as a way of life beyond school.

Tolerance of Those with Different Faith and Beliefs

This is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by providing opportunities to experience such diversity for example through the 'Come and See' RE syllabus and studying Judaism and Islam. Each year the school has a 'Respect and Tolerance' week where significant role models are studied for example: Nelson Mandela, Mother Teresa, Martin Luther King, Pope Francis, Helen Keller, Florence Nightingale and Rosa Parks.

Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school.

Through a wide range of activities, and the deliberate planning of the whole school curriculum, British values are shared, experienced and understood.

Expected Outcomes

Through the entirety of our work and range of partnerships, our children will gain a good understanding of the values that underpin the privileges, rights, responsibilities and duties of citizenship. We will equip them 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 with a commitment to British values who support and positively value community cohesion.

This policy was written 1st September, 2015 and updated 18th February 2019. The policy was adopted by the Governing Body of St Francis Xavier's RC Primary School on 18th March 2019.

The policy will be monitored by members of the Senior Management Team and Chair of Governors.

The policy will be reviewed in September 2021.

Signed: *Sylvia Cockroft*

Date: 18.3.19 Chair of Governors

Signed: *Diana Pearce*

Date: 18.3.19 Headteacher

Diana Pearce
1.9.15, 18.2.19