

St Paul's Roman Catholic Primary School

British Values Policy

This policy, after consultation with the LA and Governors, was adopted by the Governing Body of St. Paul's Roman Catholic Primary School and will be reviewed as and when necessary.

Revised January 2016

The promotion of 'British Values' is central to Catholic education because British Values have their origin in the Christian values of our nation. British values are considered by the present government to be:

- Democracy
- Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs.

At St. Paul's we provide an education that focuses on the formation of the whole person and on our vocation and purpose in life. We are guided by our mission statement 'In him we live and move and have our being. This means we will all try to live our lives like Jesus did, and we know that we are special. We will take care of each other and our surroundings. We will work hard and do our best. We will try to follow in St Paul's footsteps by 'having a loving and understanding heart'

St Paul's bears witness to the Gospel values of mutual respect, love, forgiveness, hope and the development of the gifts and abilities, which each one of us has

Through the provision of spiritual, moral, social and cultural development we aim to

- enable students to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence;
- enable students to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England;
- encourage students to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely;
- enable students to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England;
- further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling students to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures;
- encourage respect for other people; and
- encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.

As a school promoting fundamental British values we hope for our pupils to show

- an understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process;
- an appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their wellbeing and safety;
- an understanding that there is a separation of power between the executive and the judiciary, and that while some public bodies such as the police and the army can be held to account through Parliament, others such as the courts maintain independence'

- an understanding that the freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law;
- an acceptance that other people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated; and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour; and
- an understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination.

At St Paul's we try to :-

- include in suitable parts of the curriculum, as appropriate for the age of pupils, material on the strengths, advantages and disadvantages of democracy, and how democracy and the law works in Britain, in contrast to other forms of government in other countries;
- ensure that 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 student council whose members are voted for by the pupils;
- 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.
- Use teaching resources from a wide variety of sources to help pupils understand a range of faiths and;
- Consider the role of extra-curricular activity, including any run directly by pupils, in promoting fundamental British values.