

British Values at St. Philip's Catholic Primary School

At St. Philip's Catholic Primary School, we uphold and teach pupils about British Values which are defined as:

- democracy
- rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect
- tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

These values are taught explicitly through Education for Personal relationships (EPR), and Religious Education (RE). We also teach British Values through planning and delivering a broad and balanced curriculum. We have achieved the following external accreditations which demonstrate evidence of our commitment to British Values:

- Ofsted grade of 'Good' (February 2012)
- School Inspection of Catholic Schools (Section 48) grade of 'Outstanding' (June 2012)

The school takes opportunities to actively promote British Values through daily collective worship and whole school systems and structures such as electing and running a successful School Council and a group of RE Ambassadors. We also actively promote British values through ensuring that our curriculum planning and delivery includes real opportunities for exploring these values. These values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy:

Democracy is an important value at our school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council. The elections of members of the School Council are based on pupil votes.

The Rule of Law:

The importance of laws and rules, whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days. Our system for behaviour is aligned to an agreed set of codes and if children are given verbal warnings this is always set against the agreed school behaviour policy.

Children are asked to identify which aspect of the code they have broken to ensure that this connection is made and understood. 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. Visits from authorities such as the police, fire service etc. are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message.

To encourage and promote good behaviour, attitude and work, we have devised a reward system which is consistently followed throughout the school

which is based on the Gospel values and involves a set list of rewards and sanctions

We are committed to praising children's efforts. We endeavour to praise the children informally, individually, during group work, in front of the whole class and the whole school. Children are rewarded not only for achievement in curriculum areas, but for behaviour and general adherence to the behaviour policy

Rewards are given in the form of stickers, house points and certificates. Children's achievements are also recognised during Celebration Assemblies.

Individual Liberty :

Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices at our school, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we provide boundaries for our children to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and planned curriculum. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely. Pupils are given the freedom to make choices, e.g. signing up for extra-curricular clubs.

Mutual Respect:

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy are based around core Christian values such as 'respect' and 'responsibility' and these values determine how we live as a community at St. Philip's. Collective Worship is based on 'Christian Values for Life' and 'Gospel values' which are central to how we expect everyone to go about their life at our school. Our RE inspection grading is testament to this.

Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

This is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity in our local community which is by large white British. Collective Worship and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and EPR. We use opportunities such as the Olympics and World Cup to study and learn about life and culture in countries. We have links with a school in Gambia and have an annual Geography/international week where we research the customs and beliefs of those in other countries.

We have termly World Faith Celebration Weeks where we study another world faith and learn about their customs, practices and celebrations. Where possible, we invite guest speakers and run workshops to give the children a real experience of a different belief system.