

Policy for Promoting British Values at St Anne's RC Primary and Nursery School

Mission Statement

*"To help every person here to achieve
his or her best in work and in play.
To celebrate whatever is good
And to follow in the footsteps of Jesus
By supporting and forgiving each other,
For the honour and glory of God".*

Rationale

Until now schools have been required to 'respect' British values, but as a result of changes brought in all schools must now have a clear strategy for embedding these values. The changes have been designed to "tighten up the standards on pupil welfare to improve safeguarding, and the standards on Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development of pupils to strengthen the barriers to extremism".

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."***

Publishing the guidance, Lord Nash said:

"A key part of our plan for education is to ensure children become valuable and fully rounded members of society who treat others with respect and tolerance, regardless of background. We want every school to promote the basic British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs"

At St Anne's RC Primary and Nursery School these values form part of our Nission Statement and the daily life of our school. These are brought to focus regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy

This is an important aspect of life within our school.

Children have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council, Youth Chaplaincy Team, Caritas Ambassadors, Sports Ambassadors, Eco and E Safety Squads, Bee Buddies, in Assemblies and especially the Pupil Voice Assemblies in October, February and June each Year. The candidates, voting process and elections of School Council Representatives are based on children's votes. Our class Behaviour Plans are based on the children's ideals and ideas. Our children contribute to the weekly foci for the Advent and Lenten assemblies.

The Rule of Law

These are clearly linked to our Behaviour Plans, where we clearly state our Rules, Rights and Responsibilities. The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern our classes, our school or our country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days in addition to dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. Our children are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences

for their actions in breaking a law. Children are encouraged to reconcile their differences, apologise if necessary and, through their actions, acknowledge the feelings of others.

Individual Liberty

Within St Anne's our children are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate our children and provide boundaries for them to make these choices safely. In order to equip them in successfully achieving this we provide a safe environment and an empowering education. Our children increasingly, are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advise how to exercise these safely, without harm to others, for example through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons.

Mutual Respect

Our children are aware that "Respect" is an integral part of our school ethos and Behaviour Policy.

This is modelled between staff, parents and children and to all visitors to our school. "Respect" is the main focus of our "New Beginnings" Assemblies each September. Children are able to talk about the importance of respect for everyone in St Anne's and our wider Community through their experiences and contributions to assemblies and Behaviour Plans for example. Children show respect to each other and to all visitors to school.

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. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and our anti-bullying stance are followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE. As a school we celebrate Birthday Assembly each week by singing in Spanish and Polish. Our children share and celebrate the languages spoken by our EAL children. We celebrate a Multi-faiths week in school and children are keen to learn about different faiths and share their findings with each other, their parents and our school community

What must be taught?

The advice here is basically the same for maintained schools ('state' schools) and independent schools (private schools, academies and free schools):

- *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 for 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.*

The only difference for independent schools is in the penultimate paragraph, which now includes them in requirements regarding [the Equality Act's protected characteristics](#):

- *encourage respect for other people, paying particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010.*

This Policy was reviewed and agreed: September 2018

Signed: Helen Abela