

British Values ... Gospel Values

The government has set out its definition of British Values as:

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths

As an Anglican School our central mission is to actively promote values, virtues and ethics that shape our pupils' character and moral perspective. We take as our guide the teachings of the Church, and Gospel Values which are in accord with the government's definition of British Values. It is our business to create good citizens who will contribute to developing caring and respectful multi-cultural communities.

Through our curriculum we are able to make real links between the values of our pupils and the lives of others in their community, country and the world in general. We teach about democracy, civic responsibility, rules and laws, the monarchy, equality, freedom of speech, values and virtues, environmental awareness and understanding of other faiths. We do this through PSHCE and RE, History, Geography, the choice of literature covered in Literacy, cross- curricular projects and specific themed weeks. We also do it through the way in which our community is organised.

Democracy

We actively promote and model democracy by:

- Providing our children with a broad knowledge of and promoting respect for public institutions and services.
- Teaching children how they can influence decision making through the democratic process e.g. School council, suggestion boxes, developing skills in persuasive language in Literacy, questionnaires and surveys
- Encouraging pupils to become involved in decision making processes and ensuring they are listened to in school e.g. school council, open door policy for head and deputy, consultation groups, liaison between staff and pupils
- Modelling how perceived injustice can be peacefully challenged e.g. by teaching about inspirational figures such as Mother Teresa, Mahatma Ghandi. We teach Gospel values (e.g. justice, peace and integrity) through assemblies, collective worship and in the curriculum.

Rule of Law

We actively promote and model the rule of law by e.g.:

- Ensuring school rules are clear and fair e.g. through our consistent behaviour policy
- Looking at how the Ten Commandments form the basis for UK law
- Helping children to distinguish right from wrong e.g. by using the example of Christ when dealing with behaviour that is not acceptable
- Promoting respect for the law and the basis on which it is made e.g. through visitors such as police and councillors into school
- Helping children to understand that living under the rule of law protects individuals e.g. through our RE curriculum, PSHCE curriculum and through focus weeks and visitors
- Having a behaviour policy that is based on the Christian value of forgiveness
- Observing 'silences' to honour the dead on Armistice Day; using British Legion resources to educate the children as to the sacrifices made by others to guard their freedom

Individual Liberty

We actively promote and model individual liberty by:

- Supporting pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence. We recognise that each child is unique, made equal and in the image of God.
- We have a zero tolerance for bullying of any sort – it is dealt with quickly and with regard to our clear anti bullying policy which deals with racism, homophobia and all other forms of bullying.
- By making every effort to meet the needs of all of the children, by providing equality of opportunity and by listening to and understanding the needs of all of the children
- We have strong quality first teaching throughout school.
- Our pastoral support team works with families to remove barriers to learning for children.
- Our safeguarding systems are very robust
- Having an open door policy for parents.

- Having a behaviour system that encourages individual responsibility for actions and that rewards the right choices.

Mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths

We actively promote and model respect and tolerance by:

- Promoting respect for individual differences. We deal with intolerant behaviour and disrespect as and when it happens
- We celebrate the diversity of cultures represented in the school. Our RE curriculum helps the children to learn about different faiths and we arrange visits to different places of worship, e.g. a local mosque and the church.
- Helping children to acquire an understanding of and respect for their own and other cultures and ways of life through Geography and MFL. We have special themed weeks to try to provide a more immersive experience.
- Openly discuss and celebrate the differences between people such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, and also those marginalised in society, such as the homeless. Our Harvest celebration supports a homeless charity.