

The Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School

British Values

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."

The Government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy, and these values have been reiterated this year (2015). At The Holy Spirit we actively promote British Values through our Mission Statement, Catholic ethos and Christian values. This underpins all our relationships, mutual respect, school policies, procedures and systems. We also actively promote the British values through ensuring that our curriculum planning and delivery includes real opportunities for exploring these values. As a Catholic school the gospel values are part of each and every lesson, interaction or relationship. They are central to our curriculum and help to educate our children and prepare them for life in modern Britain.

At The Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy

Our active School Council is a body of children that have been voted for by their peers to represent the pupils' views about the school. It is made up of children from each class, from Year 1 to Year 6. In their regular meetings they make decisions on fund raising ideas for school fund and charities, school trips, school improvement and a variety of school events. Their voice and the voice of the pupils they represent, is an invaluable asset in continually helping us to improve as a school and provide the children with the environment they want and deserve.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws are consistently reinforced at The Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country. Pupils are taught from an early age the rules of the school.

- Follow instructions with thought and care
- Show good manners at all times
- Care for everyone and everything

Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and 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 and Fire Service help reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty

At The Holy Spirit, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, matched by taking responsibilities for one's own actions and effects on others, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our e-Safety and PSHE lessons.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with 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 The Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School. Children and adults alike, including visitors, are challenged if they are disrespectful in any way. Mutual respect is also taught through our detailed R.E curriculum and our spiritual, moral, social and cultural curriculum.

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 PSHE. We use opportunities through our broad and balanced curriculum to study and learn about life and culture in other countries. We often use resources and have visitors such as CAFOD to enhance children's understanding of different societies. We have enjoyed learning about Hinduism in the Autumn term as a whole school and look forward this Easter to sharing a Seder meal with someone of the Jewish faith.