

St. Mary's RC Primary School.

British Values Policy.



Mission Statement

- We will always open our doors wide in welcome.
- We will always love and care for each other as Jesus taught us.
- We will always place the Word of God at the heart of our School.
- We will always worship God our Father.
- We will always be witnesses to Jesus Christ by following in his footsteps.

This policy has been written to ensure that at Saint Mary's we are teaching the children the core 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 (2014). At Saint Mary's these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy

Each class discuss their own class rules and how these affect their own learning and behavior. We have a school council which debate and decide issues which impact on the whole school. The school council members are voted on by their own peers. We also have an Eco council and these children also listen to others

viewpoints. KS2 children also complete the pupil questionnaire annually to share their own thoughts and feelings.

The Rule of the Law

Pupils are taught the importance of the laws, those which govern the whole country, the Church and those at our own school. Rules are taught from Reception and behaviour sanctions are consistent throughout the whole school. 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 Saint Mary's, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, 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 eSafety and PSHE lessons. They also understand that with rights come responsibilities.

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.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

At Saint Mary's we actively promote diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures. Religious Education lessons and PSHE lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and

respect for others. The children visit places of worship and have key speakers that are important to different faiths. As a school we work closely with families from different faiths in order to ensure that all children are included. Each class studies a world Religion as part of their RE scheme.

This policy was last reviewed by the staff in September 2019 and by the Governors in