

The Department for Education state that there is a 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 were reiterated by the Prime Minister in 2014.

St Teresa's Statement of British Values

At St Teresa's Catholic Primary School we seek to live out the values of Jesus Christ. We promote these values by our words and deeds, Our Catholic doctrine and practice therefore permeates every aspect of school life. We provide a Catholic curriculum, which is broad and balanced, recognising that every pupil is unique and is created in the image and likeness of God. At St Teresa's we provide an education which focuses on the development of the whole person and on our vocation and purpose in life. We are guided by our mission statement 'Christ be in our heads, in our hearts and in our hands' and by the Christian values of, respect, compassion, co-operation and stewardship as we reflect on our place and purpose in the world. We foster a community in which different faiths and beliefs are respected and celebrated.

Promoting British Values at St Teresa's Catholic Primary School

The examples that follow are an indication of some of the many ways we seek to embed British values at St Teresa's catholic Primary school and should be seen as an indication of our approach rather than an exhaustive list.

Democracy

Democracy is embedded at the school. Pupils are always listened to by adults and are taught to listen carefully and with concern to each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard. Pupils also have the opportunity to air their opinions and ideas through our School Council, Eco-Committee and regular pupil questionnaires. They are often asked to vote for activities or individuals to represent them.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, whether they are those that govern the school or the country, are consistently reinforced. Our school has rules which are deeply embedded in our work every day and encompass our Catholic values. Each class discusses and displays the school rules and mission statement, which are clearly understood by all and seen to be necessary to ensure that every pupil is able to learn in a safe and ordered environment. Our 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. We highlight the rules of the church and God in the R.E. curriculum. Details about school rewards and sanctions, choice and consequences are detailed in our behaviour policy. Visits from authorities

such as the Police; Fire Service; Ambulance are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. At St Teresa's we educate and provide boundaries for our pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment, an empowering education and a curriculum based upon clear Christian values. Our pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely; examples of this can be clearly seen in our e-safety and PSHCE lessons. Whether it is through choice of challenge; of how they record; of participation in our numerous extra- curricular activities; our pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

Mutual Respect

Respect is one of our core values and key to our school rules and it is deeply embedded in all that we do at the school. The pupils know and understand that it is expected and imperative that respect is shown to everyone, whatever differences we may have and to everything, however big or small. Our children also value the importance of respecting God's world. The core value of respect at St Teresa's underpins our work every day both in and out of the classroom.

Tolerance of Those with Different Faiths and Beliefs

Our core value of respect ensures tolerance of those who have different faiths and beliefs. St Teresa's Catholic Primary School enhances pupils' understanding of different faiths and beliefs through religious education studies following the Liverpool Diocese schemes; PSHCE work, welcoming visitors of other faiths and participating in and enjoying in-depth study during themed weeks. Through this our pupils gain an enhanced understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society.