

St John's Catholic Infant School

Promoting British Values within St John's Catholic Infant School



"Loving, Learning and Laughter together with God"

Our School Mission Statement:

St John's Catholic Infant School is a **welcoming, caring community** and an extension of the **home** and **parish**. The children experience the **Gospel message of God's loving care** through the **worship, relationships** and **teaching of the Catholic Church**.

The **curriculum** is **rich, broad and balanced** reflecting the distinctively Catholic nature of the school.

We will offer **every** child - whatever their individual characteristics – the chance to **achieve** their **full potential, feel secure** and **enjoy** growing up.

Our Christian School Values are embedded into the heart of the school:

"The fruits of the Holy Spirit are: Love, Peace, Faithfulness, Joy, Goodness, Gentleness, Patience, Self-Control and Kindness" (Galatians 5, 22-23)

Schools are required **"to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British Values of democracy, the role of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs"**. This prepares children for opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life in modern Britain.

At St John's Infants, we regularly promote these values through our own school values, curriculum and wide range of enrichment activities.

<u>Key Area of British Values</u>	<u>Current Practice</u>
<u>Democracy</u> How citizens can influence decision making through the democratic process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Election of School Council – through a fair and democratic voting system. Those councillors then represent their class friends and influence some of the practices of the school.• Children have an annual questionnaire – Children can put forward their views about school.• Volunteering – Children can volunteer themselves as play leaders at playtimes.• PSHE/Jigsaw lessons/Assemblies – Democracy is also promoted through our lessons and assemblies.• PTFA – Parents, Teachers and Friends of St John's Infant School work in the best interests of the school and decide how to spend money raised at our school events.• Rights Respecting School Award underpins all our work across the school

<p><u>The Rule of Law</u></p> <p>An appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance of laws; whether they are those that govern the class, the school or our country. Children are taught from an early age to rules and expectations of our school. • Golden Rules/School Values/Behaviour – Children are taught the values and reasons behind rules and laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Children follow our school Golden rules. All classes have developed their own classroom rules and expectations and designed class charters and reward systems at the start of the year. • Visits from authorities – such as the Police, Fire service help reinforce this message. • Certificates – there are rewards for exhibiting good and caring behaviour and consistent demonstration of our values/Golden Rules is recognised through ‘Golden Book Assembly’. Attendance awards are also given out. • Visits from MPs/The Mayor.
<p><u>Individual Liberty</u></p> <p>An understanding that the freedom to hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law. An acceptance that other people having differing faiths and beliefs or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring all children are treated with dignity and respect – this is done through ensuring that all children have equal access to the curriculum and to afterschool clubs and activities. • Anti-Bullying Policy – this address prejudicial and discriminatory behaviour. • E-Safety – this is promoted within our school curriculum and careful use of technology in school. Posters are put up in all classrooms to promote safety at all times. • Parent Workshops – to demonstrate how parents can help their children at home, by understanding the curriculum and how it is taught in school. • PSHE/RE lessons – RE curriculum “The Way, Truth and Life” and specific units relating to the children including “Good To Be Me” and how to keep safe. • Other Faith Days – throughout the year, the children learn about other key faiths • Safeguarding and support for Staff – for responding to extremism and radicalisation.
<p><u>Mutual Respect</u></p> <p>An understanding in our children that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging all children to show respect – care and kindness to others through the core aims and values of our school mission statement/aims/codes of conduct. • Strong R.E lessons – promoting knowledge and understanding of their own Catholic Faith as well as different religions and cultures around the world. • Certificate assemblies – we award certificates to promote the core values of our school. • Raising money/resources for charities – to raise awareness and provide charitable donations to help others in need; such as Response (Homeless); Lenten Fundraising including Mission together, Good Shepherd; Harvest Festival, The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and responding to crisis events e.g. floods/ hurricanes
<p><u>Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs.</u></p> <p>An understanding of the problems of identifying and combating discrimination.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although St John’s Catholic Infant School is a predominantly Catholic Faith school, we ensure our children become aware of different faiths, nationalities and ethnic origins. • We actively promote diversity through our celebrations of different cultures - Every year we celebrate a range of religious festivals and include first hand experiences when possible e.g. visit to local Mosque • Regular assemblies and masses both in school and up at St John’s church • Celebrations of Festivals around the world – Every year we celebrate Diwali, Chinese New Year, etc.

Further Developments:

- Develop further links with the community, using their skills to promote and enhance learning about the world.
- To celebrate different, religious festivals throughout the school year in lessons and assemblies.
- To promote other faiths/ nationalities and ethnic origins through displays across the school.
- Staff training to ensure all staff have good understanding of what British Values is and how it can be promoted throughout the curriculum.
- Continue to plan whole school events throughout the year that focus upon aspects of SMSC, PSHE and British Values
- Evaluate and offer advice about PSHE/SMSC/ British Values in planning for curriculum areas, focusing on strengths and points for development.
- Develop displays in classroom and across the school that promote PSHE/SMSC/British Values/ Diversity/ Respect

Reviewed April 2021