

British Values at St Joseph's R.C. Primary School



Statement of Intent

St Joseph's Catholic School promotes our motto 'Walk in the light of Christ' in everything we do. The Gospel values, which are our core values and our mission statement is based on them, are at the heart of the school. Our core fundamental values enable our children to live in a diverse society and develop the foundations for them to be equipped for life in modern Britain.

St Joseph's School is committed to serving its local national and international community. It recognises the multi-cultural, multi faith and ever-changing landscape of the United Kingdom. It also understands the vital role it has in ensuring that groups or individuals within any environment are not subjected to intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to unduly, or illegally, influence them. Our school fosters a strong sense of belonging both to the school community and as a citizen of Britain with the responsibilities that citizenship brings.

The school has policies in place which guarantee that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status, or similar. It seeks to serve all so that everyone feels a sense of belonging.

'St Joseph's is an inclusive community where everyone is welcomed and valued. The motto taken from the mission statement 'Walk in the Light of Christ' is at the heart of everything the school does.'

(Diocesan Inspection Report 8-9 Oct 2015)

Promoting the Values at St Joseph's School

The Government emphasises that schools are required to ensure that key 'British Values' are taught in all UK schools. The government set out its definition of British values in the 'Prevent Strategy' - values of:

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect
- tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

All staff and some governors attended 'Prevent Training'-Summer Term 2016

The school uses opportunities to promote these values across the curriculum and embed them in the rich ethos of our school. At St Joseph's we provide opportunities for pupils to explore their own culture and have a clear understanding and appreciation of a wide range of the cultural influences that have shaped modern Britain. We encourage all children to be tolerant and respectful to those of different faiths and beliefs. This is done by providing the children with an understanding of the main festivals and key dates of significance to British culture e.g. Remembrance Day, the Queen's Birthday and major political events such as elections. We are forming strong links in our local community with other local schools and are participating in a range of out of school activities including sporting events.

The following are just a few examples of how British Values are promoted at St Joseph's School.

Democracy

- Children have a voice about decisions made in the school e.g. School Council
- Regular assemblies are based on major political events taking place in Great Britain and throughout the world
- UNICEF Rights Respecting School-children are part of the steering group, have developed their own class charters and contributed to questionnaires
- The history of democracy is taught through topics and class debates are encouraged- e.g. Ancient Greeks and World War II
- School website ,newsletters, parents evenings, annual events ,questionnaires

The Rule of Law

- School has links with the local Police and Fire Stations
- Clearly structured, effective and publicised Behavioural Policy
- Annual anti-bullying week
- Assemblies cover national and international events
- Golden rules ,house points and house systems with team captains

Individual Liberty

- Pupils have key roles and responsibilities in the school e.g. Year 6 Prefects and Buddies
- School song, Motto, Mission Statement and our school values, are embedded throughout the daily life of the school and spread our vision
- Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices knowing that they are in safe and supportive environment
- E safety/PSHE lessons (SEAL topics)
- Wide variety of sports activities and clubs which are all inclusive
- Home/School agreement
- Achievement Assemblies

Mutual Respect

- Sports activities and clubs promote an attitude of equality and fairness
- Our PSHE curriculum embodies values of mutual respect
- The use of buddy schemes/prefects promotes mutual respect between pupils across different phases in school
- Judaism and Islam weeks promotes respect of other faiths
- Right's Respecting Schools, mutual respect is at heart of this
- Annual fundraising activities for charities eg CAFOD

Acceptance of Different Faith and Beliefs

- RE taught across the school includes Judaism, Islam and Christianity
- Links with local Primary schools through Billingham Cluster
- PSHE lessons/assemblies on current events
- Visitors policy