

St. Mary's (Endowed) CE VA Primary School



Promoting British Values

At St. Mary's we take care of each other, aim high, enjoy learning and achieve success within the family of a Church school.

British Values

In November 2014, The Department for Education released guidance to ensure that young people leave school prepared for life in modern Britain. All schools have a duty to 'actively promote' the fundamental British values of:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

These values were first set out by the government in the 'Prevent' strategy in 2011.

At St. Mary's we aim to actively promote British values in school to encourage pupils to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance and to understand that while different people may hold different views about what is 'right' and 'wrong', all people living in Britain are subject to its law.

How this is done at St. Mary's?

At St. Mary's we actively promote British values through:

- the reinforcement of our strong Christian ethos, linking the values in a meaningful way
- the development of systems and practices that encourage respect, understanding and high expectations of behaviour and conduct
- ensuring that our curriculum planning and delivery includes real opportunities for exploring these values
- encouraging children to explore ideas and ask questions

British Values are linked to Christian Values through Daily Collective Worship; within PSHE lessons and through studying topics that allow children to broaden their horizons and challenge ideas and misconceptions. We subscribe to 'Picture News' which allows the children to discuss topical issues and relate to what is happening in the world around them. We also aim to develop individuality and self-esteem by identifying each child's strengths and enabling children to speak confidently about what they believe.

Democracy

Democracy can be seen as a state of society characterised by equality of rights and privileges. It can also refer to our nation's electoral systems.

At St Mary's we:

- Provide pupils with a broad general knowledge of, and promote respect for, public institutions and services
- Teach pupils how they can influence decision-making through the democratic process and involve them in this process through the school council
- Include discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of democracy and how it works in Britain within our topics
- Hold elections within class so pupils learn how to argue and defend points of view
- Help pupils to express their views
- Model how perceived injustice can be peacefully challenged

Rule of Law

"All people and institutions are subject to and accountable to law that is fairly applied and enforced."

At St Mary's we:

- Create agreed class codes of conduct
- Ensure that each child understands the school code of conduct and reasoning behind it
- Reward and celebrate positive behaviours
- Help pupils distinguish between right and wrong
- Help pupils understand and respect the law and the basis on which it is made
- Help pupils to understand that living under the rule of law protects individuals.

Individual Liberty

Individual liberty suggests the free exercise of rights generally seen as outside Government control.

At St Mary's we:

- Support pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence
- Encouraging children to make informed choices
- Encourage pupils to take responsibility for their behaviour, as well as knowing their rights
- Model freedom of speech through pupil participation, while ensuring protection of vulnerable pupils and promoting critical analysis of evidence
- Challenge stereotypes
- Implement a strong anti-bullying culture
- Delivery a progressive online-safety programme throughout school.

Mutual Respect

“The proper regard for an individual’s dignity, which is reciprocated.”

At St Mary’s we:

- Deliver the ‘PATHS’ programme with ‘Treat others the way you would like be treated’ at the heart of the teaching and learning
- Promote respect for individual differences
- Help pupils to acquire an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other cultures and ways of life
- Challenge prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour
- Learn to disagree in a respectful way;

Tolerance of those with other faiths and beliefs

“A fair, objective, and permissive attitude to those whose faith and beliefs may differ from one’s own.”

At St Mary’s we:

- Develop links with faith and other communities through RE and topics
- Develop critical, personal thinking skills
- Enhance pupil’s understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and offer opportunities to experience diversity where possible
- Develop understanding of prejudice

Date for review - 18.06.19

This policy has been reviewed and adopted by the Governing Body at the meeting on: 18.06.18

Signed and dated by:

The Headteacher

Kathryn Jackson  18/06/2018

and

The Chair of Governors

Anne Cottingham  18/06/2018

