



St. Edmund's Catholic Primary School
"Together we learn and grow through worship and celebration"

Promotion of British Values at St Edmund's Catholic Primary School

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
- Mutual respect
- 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 (2014-15).

At St Edmund's Catholic Primary School, British values underpin the school ethos and are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy

All staff opinions are valued and adults are encouraged to share their ideas to sustain outstanding practice and to provide a forward looking workforce. Pupils have opportunities to have their voices heard through pupil questionnaires, PSHE activities and class discussions. Pupils are encouraged to share their views about the school. These views are then considered by the staff and school council. School Council are elected through democratic voting. Our School Council meets to discuss any issues that have been raised in class or highlighted through pupil voice surveys. The pupils in each class vote for their representatives. School council minutes are displayed and points raised are discussed with adults. Pupil views are taken into account when new initiatives and clubs are being considered.

The Rule of Law

Positive behaviour strategies provide clear boundaries and the development of self-discipline. All pupils are expected to abide by the school rules and demonstrate 'St Edmund's Standards'.



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The importance of laws in school, at home and in the wider world are consistently reinforced during the school day, in behaviour management and through school assemblies and visits. We expect our pupils to behave inside and outside school in an exemplary manner. Pupils discuss the reasons behind these rules and the responsibility that they have to abide by the rules by making the right choice. Pupils understand that rules are made to protect us. All pupils understand that there are consequences for breaking rules and they know the school sanctions. Planned visits in the Curriculum from the Police and Fire Services reinforce this message and explain the importance of adhering to and the consequences of breaking laws which govern our land.

Individual Liberty

Pupils are encouraged to make choices from the Nursery onwards secure in the knowledge that they are safe. We provide strong boundaries within a safe and secure environment. Pupils are encouraged to voice their opinions and are guided to making safe choices through PSHE and E-safety lessons. All pupils are taught e-safety rules to keep them safe on the internet. Older pupils are made aware of the dangers of social networking. Pupils are given opportunities to make choices in the classroom and to decide whether they wish to participate in extra-curricular activities and clubs. All school activities and classrooms are inclusive and encourage pupils to be self-disciplined.

Mutual respect

At St Edmund's our Christian values of respect and tolerance permeate all areas of school life. This engenders a climate within which pupils feel safe and secure and facilitates the fulfilment of potential. All staff demonstrate respect to everyone with whom they come into contact. They consistently model and promote the behaviours and attitudes that are the foundation of positive relationships. The strong school ethos encourages everyone to consider and support each other and to celebrate the worth and individuality of every member of the school community. Discussions in class and during whole school assemblies as well as issues that are promoted during collective worship, allow the children to show respect and reverence to all other individuals. Pupils learn that their behaviour has an effect on others so all members of the school community are expected to treat each other with respect. Our values are reinforced through displays, newsletters, our website, collective worship and in curriculum activities.



Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

As a Catholic community, pupils are reminded of their place in a culturally diverse society. This is achieved through our Religious Education curriculum and the spiritual life of the school. Assemblies and class work promote the diversity of society and the right for each person to be respected and valued equally regardless of

Age
Disability
Gender Reassignment
Marriage or Civil partnership
Pregnancy or maternity
Race
Religion or Belief
Sex
Sexual Orientation

Members of different faiths or religions are invited to school to share their knowledge. More recently we have worked alongside a local Islamic school. Each year group studies another country which allows them to compare and contrast cultures whilst respecting other faiths and beliefs. This work is also embedded in the many other curriculum areas which are studied throughout the year. We also often use opportunities such as the Olympics/World cup to study other cultures. We provide opportunities for the pupils to follow traditional activities and support local and global charities. Collective worship, PSHE and RE lessons regularly promote discussion of these issues.

All pupils know who they can talk to if they have any concerns. The school has very few bullying or racial incidents; pupils feel secure and happy. This is supported by pupil and parent voice questionnaires. Our staff will actively challenge any pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values. We are vigilant to any obsessive attitudes or behaviour which might give cause for concern and will notify appropriate authorities for advice.

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