



Together with Jesus, we grow in love

# Holy Family Catholic Primary School

## British Values

## **Promoting British Values at Holy Family Primary School**

At Holy Family, we take very seriously our responsibility to prepare children for life in modern Britain. We ensure that the fundamental British Values are introduced, discussed and lived out through the ethos and work of the school. All curriculum areas provide a vehicle for furthering understanding of these concepts and, in particular, our RE, PSHE and Citizenship lessons provide excellent opportunities to deepen and develop understanding. Children embrace these concepts with enthusiasm and demonstrate a good understanding of their application to their own lives. The school makes considerable efforts to ensure children have exposure to a wide experience beyond their local community during which these concepts are shown, through for example, sporting events, a range of visits and use of outdoor education centres. Their strong rooted values-based understanding gives them an excellent platform for embracing difference.

### **Our British Values:**

#### **Democracy**

- 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
- Include in the curriculum information on the advantages and disadvantages of democracy and how it works in Britain
- Help pupils to express their views and encourage pupils to become involved in decision making processes and ensure they are listened to in school
- Hold ‘mock elections’ so pupils learn how to argue and defend points of view
- Teach pupils how public services operate and how they are held to account
- Model how perceived injustice can be peacefully challenged

#### **Democracy – what do we do at Holy Family Catholic Primary School?**

- Democracy is shown through history topics such as the Ancient Greeks
- Circle Time and discussion groups
- Elections for our school council representatives
- Class assemblies
- Pupil Voice during lessons
- Displays around the school

#### **Rule of law**

- Ensure school rules and expectations are clear and fair
- Help pupils to distinguish right from wrong
- Help pupils to respect the law and the basis on which it is made
- Help pupils to understand that living under the rule of law protects individuals
- Include visits from the police in the curriculum
- Embed restorative practice approaches to resolve conflicts

### Rule of Law – what do we do at Holy Family Catholic Primary School?

- Children come up with their own class charters
- Talks from community police
- Our behaviour management systems allow children to have control of their own behaviour choices and rewards
- Whole school and class assemblies
- Displays around the school

### Individual liberty

- Support pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence
- 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

### Individual liberty – what do we do at Holy Family Catholic Primary School?

- Our curriculum celebrates all cultures and faiths
- School Council discussions
- Class discussions
- Our behaviour policy promotes Individual Liberty
- Topics, including “celebrating differences.”
- Displays around the school

### Respect and tolerance

- 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
- Organise visits to places of worship and establish links with faith communities
- Develop critical personal thinking skills
- Discuss differences between people, such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, gender or sexuality and differences of family situations, such as looked-after children or young carers

## Respect and tolerance – what do we do at Holy Family Catholic Primary School?

- Our whole school Ethos and Values
- RE and PSHE lessons
- Our whole curriculum
- Supporting charities
- Visits and visitors
- Celebrating our diverse school community
- Displays around the school

### Individual Liberty

Pupils at Holy Family are encouraged to become good and valued citizens. We achieve this by supporting each pupil to become as independent as possible. We endeavour to demonstrate that everyone has rights; this includes the right to say ‘No’ when appropriate. Some pupils will be able to take responsibility for particular roles and to understand that with certain rights comes a level of responsibility. Learning to do things independently is an important part of learning to understand yourself. We support others by participating in local community events and charitable events such as CAFOD and MacMillan. All our pupils have been trained to be Dementia Friends and Year 3-6 pupils take turns to visit a residential care home to make a positive contribution to our community. We believe that by engendering a caring and helpful environment and by learning to be independent can boost and nurture a healthy self-esteem.

At Holy Family pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our e-safety and PSHE lessons known as “Get Set for Life.”

### Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect. We promote each pupil’s inclusion, where possible, in a range of activities, settings and locations. The children in Early Years have opportunities to integrate with other children. As pupils move into the other Key Stages, further planned events and circumstances are planned for pupils to go into the community to meet with a range of people in a variety of situations which include: sports events, community events, Dementia Friends citizenship and shared participation with other schools in the area. It is important to facilitate opportunities for schools to be part of the local, national and global communities. Pupils, families and staff have much to offer in the development of community cohesion.

## Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

Holy Family Catholic Primary School is a diverse school. We actively promote diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures. Religious Education lessons and PSHE lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others. Members of different faiths and religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. Cultural appreciation and development forms part of our curriculum and we place great emphasis on providing encounters and participation in events and celebrations to broaden all pupils' experiences and awareness of others.

Pupils are encouraged to experience British Culture through our curriculum themes. Schools take part in local competitions and sporting activities, which help to instil 'fair play' and engender a 'team spirit'. The staff at Holy Family Catholic Primary School work closely with parents, carers and other professionals to ensure that the pupils are happy, well cared for and enabled to learn the skills they need to live a fulfilling life as part of their community.

## Educational Experiences

At Holy Family our curriculum is designed to offer a broad and balanced range of opportunities for all our pupils. Below are examples of how we feel the curriculum promotes the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs:

- Pupils learn about other cultures through story, music and visits.
- Pupils visit places of worship including Christian churches and Mosques
- Pupils study a range of faiths and participate in multi-faith celebrations and festivals such as Diwali, Chanukah, Christmas, Easter, Eid and Chinese New Year
- Children work in class groups but have opportunities to work beyond their class to promote a sense of belonging to a community
- School counsellor and Child, Family and Community mentor provide support and guidance
- Peer mentors, prefects and playground buddies are used to provide support and guidance
- Circle times enable children to reflect on emotions and feelings (their own and those of others) to encourage empathy, tolerance and respect for others
- All modules of our computing curriculum include social awareness and safe guarding
- Moral issues and citizenship are discussed within the PSHE curriculum as well as in other subject areas.
- Police, healthcare professionals, governors and other visitors assist in promoting individual rights, responsibilities and safety
- We encourage citizenship through our enterprise initiatives and community involvement
- We participate in charitable events such as MacMillan Coffee mornings, CAFOD, Poppy collections etc
- School elections enable pupils to experience the democratic procedures associated with our country and enable pupils to have a voice and bring about changes at school
- Sporting activities promote appreciation of others, turn taking, fair play and following rules

At Holy Family, we value the diverse ethnic backgrounds of all pupils and families and undertake events and to celebrate these. We have found this approach to be enriching for all parties as it teaches tolerance and respect for the differences in our community and the wider world. Underpinning all this, are a range of curriculum topics which have strong links to the British Empire.

In Year 6, pupils undertake an intense topic about World War Two and the impact that the military had in fighting for the British Empire. This is linked with the annual Poppy Day celebrations where a minute's silence is held. Year 6 also study the impact of Liverpool and slavery which encourages reflection and moral discussions and debates.

In Year 5, pupils study the Greeks and how this has influenced our democratic society.

In Year 4, pupils study the Romans and discover how the Roman Empire effected Britain.

In Year 2, pupils study the Gun Powder plot and the failed attempt to blow up England's King James I and Parliament.

In PSHE, there is a strong focus on the work of many inspirational people such as Harriet Tubman, Emmeline Pankhurst and Martin Luther King who showed courage and conviction to change systems in society in a peaceful manner.

As a whole school, we have celebrated the World Cup and the Olympics, with Olympic themed sports days and opportunities to learn about the history of Olympians in this country.

In recent years, we celebrated the wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and the birth of Prince George with special assemblies, celebrations and themed lessons.

On a general level, the school undertakes assemblies which uphold traditional values of empathy, respect and tolerance. These are also taught within formal PSHE and RE lessons and on an informal nature throughout the school day. In PSHE children discuss racism as part of the anti-bullying curriculum and invite Bully Busters to help break down barriers and to develop a sense of identity within the wider community.