

Holy Trinity CE Primary School

British Values Statement

'To Be The Best We Can Be: For God, For Others and For Ourselves'

Our school is built on Christian values, where children feel happy and safe to live and learn. Here they find faith, hope, love, purpose and fulfilment. We do this by trying to live our Christian values every day: love, hope, forgiveness, trust, peace, reverence and justice.

Through our distinctly Christian ethos we aim to show our acceptance and engagement with the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. British values are rooted within our Christian mission statement and aims, our commitment to the UNICEF Rights of the Child and our School Code of Conduct (our Golden Promises). Within the context of our multiracial and multi faith school we work hard to develop skills and attitudes that will enable our children to participate fully and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.

Set out below are some of the ways we promote and engage with British values in school and our community.

Democracy

- Our classrooms are democratic places where all children have an equal right to be heard and where adults model a democratic approach. Children, staff and parents' views are consulted regularly and have an influence on our decision making.
- Our School and Eco Councils listen to the views of their classmates and make decisions about our school
- We learn about the birth of democracy through our curriculum, for example by studying the Ancient Greeks
- We understand how signing up to a charter commits us to rights and responsibilities, especially through our Rights Respecting School Award and the work we do upholding UNICEF's Rights of the Child
- Our Golden Promises were developed and agreed by our whole school community and we believe in listening to each other
- We understand the importance of locally elected people e.g. our councillors and local MP. We join with other local schools to discuss local community issues with our MP and other decision makers.
- We regularly make decisions in school through voting.
- Our Collective Worship themes often encourage us to reflect on the importance of democracy in arriving at a fair system of government e.g. the struggle for the black votes in South Africa and America and the development of votes for women.

The Rule of Law

- Our Collective Worship themes often explore the need for rules and laws to help us keep safe and to have justice e.g. through the story of Moses. We spend a lot of time exploring the need to 'do the right thing' and what this means.

- Our Golden Promises give us rules that we live by in school that keep us safe and happy and help us learn well
- Our curriculum gives us lots of opportunities to explore the need to have fair laws and uphold them e.g. through exploring Fair Trade and a strong focus on anti-bullying through our PSHE curriculum.
- If we have a problem with friendships we sort it out through a Restorative Justice approach where we talk through the problem and look at it from each other's points of view before we apologise and forgive each other.
- We have a strong positive behaviour policy in school based on our Golden Promises that helps us understand why we need to behave well and respect each other. Our 'Going For Green' mentoring meetings with our teachers help us take responsibility for our behaviour and attendance.
- We learn about laws that keep us safe e.g. internet laws and have lots of visits from people in the community who help to keep us safe through the law, e.g. our local police officers and fire brigade. Our children from an early age learn about the rules of road safety.

Individual Liberty

- Our Christian values uphold the creation of each human being as uniquely special and precious to God. Our Collective Worship themes explore how we can be all different but equal.
- We hold the Rights Respecting School Award in recognition of our work throughout the school to understand the need for the UN Convention of Rights of the Child across the world, including the Right to freedom of thought, faith and cultural belief.
- Our RE and PSHE topics explore the importance of individual liberty and freedom of speech.
- We raise money for charities who are working to bring individual liberty to people across the world e.g. raising money for refugees and funding the UNICEF 'School in a Box' programme.

Mutual Respect

- Our classrooms are respectful places where adults model good practice with children and with each other. Our Golden Promises are based on respect for each other and our school.
- We are a Children's University and our clubs and teams are very inclusive. Everybody is encouraged to join in and we help each other succeed. Our older children show our younger children how to respect each other through Peer Mentoring and Play Leaders.
- Our Collective Worship themes often have a link to mutual respect. For example, in Anti-Bullying month we spend a lot of time thinking about respecting difference. During Remembrance children show respect for people who gave their lives in war
- We build positive relationships with different groups of people in our local community. For example, our Year 6 children help at the Parish Centre Luncheon Club once a week where they can build positive relationships with the older generation.
- There are lots of opportunities to foster mutual respect throughout curriculum where children often work in different mixed groups and pairs. They help each other learn. We look at the theme of mutual respect through stories and topic work.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

- Our multicultural and multi faith school celebrates diversity. Our children have an excellent understanding of difference and we take many opportunities to celebrate our

different faiths and cultures through tasting different foods, listening to families talk about their different beliefs and celebrating different languages in school. We often translate letters, newsletters and signs into other languages so all our families feel included.

- Our classrooms are places where we learn to live with each other harmoniously as a group thinking about cooperation, sharing and being kind and generous to each other.
- We work hard to break down language and cultural barriers that may be preventing families engaging with school. We help families fill in forms, find housing, develop skills to read with their children at home, signpost other community support networks and translate at meetings if necessary. Our parents say we engage very well with the community.
- We respect children and families with different faiths and value their decisions about participation in Christian acts of collective worship. Children talk about their different faiths and celebrations to each other in class and around school.
- Through RE and Collective Worship we find out about different faiths and how they are practised, with a strong focus on celebrating and respecting the right to practise our chosen faith.
- The value of tolerance is explored through our curriculum, relating this to questions about human rights and freedoms. Key figures in history such as Rosa Parks, Nelson Mandela, Josephine Butler and Ghandi are displayed on our History timeline and used as examples of commitment to a fairer and more tolerant world.

