



Policy on British Values

Introduction

In all that we do at St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School, we seek to fully live up to the mission statement of our entire school community 'God is at the Heart. This provides a secure foundation for our work to ensure the understanding and practice of British values imbued with our Christian faith

British values come out of the Christian tradition of Great Britain, reflect the ten commandments and the principle of Catholic Social Teaching. Christian values are embedded in our school life. We have an obligation to ensure that our pupils learn about these Christian values and that they practise them through the opportunities and high standards that we offer at St. Francis.

What We Do and Plan to Do

- Pupils are taught these values through the principles of Catholic Social Teaching and as a community work together to promote:
 - Solidarity
 - Life and Dignity
 - Care for Creation
 - Common Good
 - Option for the Poor
 - Dignity of Work
 - Rights and Responsibilities
- Pupils learn from the Foundation Stage that all are created equal in the image of God, and they are taught by example and through the rest of the curriculum to see that God given dignity in all humankind. This behaviour is modelled by staff and by the pupils. Therefore, to show how mutual respect is an expected observable behaviour throughout the school.

- Pupils learn that as individuals and as a school community we need rules. Pupils, for example through each class and the school council, help to review and make some of the school rules and to understand that some rules are made for us. They are taught about and learn respect for the law both within lessons e.g. History and EPR and through assemblies
- Pupils learn about reconciliation in Religious Education, and this is applied through the school's approach to behaviour management. This helps the pupils' growing sense of the difference between right and wrong.
- Pupils are encouraged to show initiative and to participate in identifying needs and responding to ensure the well-being of fellow pupils. This is exemplified in their understanding of the term 'neighbour' in the widest context and through the commandment to 'Love thy neighbour as thyself' and their intolerance of any bullying and social injustice.
- Pupils are provided with rich opportunities to take responsibility and to show care for others. Older pupils act as Peer Mediators and Play Leaders. They undertake a range of community activities at various times in the year, for example visiting and singing at homes for the elderly at Christmas time. Pupils nominate and choose charities which they very successfully support. A strong focus on the work of charities such as CAFOD, reinforces learning about Catholic Social Teaching, justice, fairness and liberty.
- The school's celebration and certificate assembly provide further opportunities for pupils to show initiatives, recognise responsibility and to demonstrate the skills and attitudes that will help them prepare to participate and contribute as active and involved members of their communities
- Pupils practise democracy and through elections to the vibrant School Council and for the roles of Eco Council and RE Council. More is learned about democracy in history topics such as Ancient Greeks.
- As pupils get older, we place a greater emphasis on following current affairs and the news media, providing opportunities to discuss the news and to grow in discernment.
- PE and sport help to develop a sense of fair play and the participation of all, as does the school's house system consisting of four houses.
- Our religious education is firmly Christian and specifically Catholic, helping the pupils grow in their faith. Pupils also learn respect for and about the importance of faith to those of other faiths or none. A high priority is placed on arranging visits to meet with and see the places where others worship.

Monitoring and evaluation

The Governors and the headteacher are confident that St. Francis promotes community cohesion, provides excellent EPR and equips pupils to be good to future citizens and make a difference to those less fortunate.

S. Winton

Date June 2024

Date for Review June 2025