



St Paschal Baylon Catholic Primary School



Following In The Footsteps Of Christ

British Values Policy

Introduction.

As of September 2014, the DfE requires all schools to promote the historical and current values that underpin the national identity known as being British. Within this, all schools are required to ensure that the curriculum actively promotes these fundamental British values.

What is 'Britishness'?

Fundamental British values are defined by the DfE as;

- (a) Democracy: Respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic process
- (b) The rule of law: Respect for the basis on which the law is made and applies in England
- (c) Individual liberty: Support and respect for the liberties of all within the law
- (d) Mutual respect and tolerance: Support for equality of opportunity for all and respect and tolerance of different faiths and religious and other beliefs.

How do we promote British Values at St Paschal Baylon?

Democracy

- Use School Council and other elected committees to teach pupils how they can influence decision making through democratic process
- Encourage students to be aware of injustice, perceived or real, and think about ways in which this can be challenged through school processes or in the wider world.
- Charity Fundraising initiatives and awareness raising campaigns.
- Include information about the advantages and disadvantages of democracy and how it works in Britain and abroad through History curriculum (see history policy).

Rule of law

- Ensure school rules and expectations are transparent, clear and fair and are used consistently across the different areas and age groups within the school.
- Police visits are used to build links between, and understanding of the local constabulary and their work to support the local community.
- Use curricular opportunities to explore the differences between civil, criminal and religious law as they pertain to British and other societies.

Individual Liberty

- Establish and maintain a climate in which all pupils feel safe and bullying is not tolerated.
- Expose pupils to people from a wide range of backgrounds and belief systems through educational visits, guest speaker assemblies and lessons which encourage children to debate and discuss ideas, share beliefs and defend opinions in a way which is both collaborative and supportive.

Respect and Tolerance

- Use curricular and extracurricular opportunities to expose pupils to British and other cultures, faiths and beliefs.
- Use Religious Education as a vehicle to embrace and accept different ways of worship and different perspectives on faith.
- Promote respect for individual differences by ensuring all staff and pupils behave with integrity, tolerance and compassion in their dealings with one another.

Rights Respecting Schools

At St Paschal Baylon, we are committed to being a Rights Respecting School. This means that we work together as a community to learn about children's rights; putting them into practice every day. Through our work as a UNICEF Rights Respecting School, we promote and reinforce the British Values of democracy, rule of law, respect and tolerance and individual liberty.

Summary.

The DfE's non-statutory advice for improving the social, moral, spiritual and cultural development in schools has information on expectations for pupils. The document sets out 'the kind of understanding and knowledge that can be expected in pupils' as a result of schools meeting the standard to respect fundamental British values'. These include;

- (a) An understanding as to how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process
- (b) An understanding that the freedom to hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law, and an acceptance that other people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour.

At St Paschal Baylon we provide opportunities for all pupils to not only explore their own cultures, but also to understand how these align with British values and how we can work together as a community for the greater good. We take care to ensure that all pupils and staff feel safe, secure and able to celebrate their own and each other's backgrounds, beliefs and cultural practices. Our emphasis is on how such values flow throughout the ethos of our school and how this is evidenced in children's behaviour, relationships with those around them and their understanding of the wider world.