

All Saints Catholic Primary School



Promoting British Values Policy

To defend a country, you need an army, but to defend a civilisation you need education.
 Dr. Jonathan Sachs, Chief Rabbi of the Commonwealth

Background

The Education Act 2002 set out the requirements as schools to promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils. In 2011, the government took this advice further by requiring schools to promote 'British Values'. These are defined as:

Democracy
 Rule of Law
 Individual Liberty
 Mutual Respect
 Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

As a Catholic school, Christian values are at the heart of what we are about; Honesty, Kindness, Responsibility, not only promoted but lived out daily by pupils and staff through the curriculum, collective worship, assemblies, visits and the interaction between pupils themselves and between pupils and staff.

Democracy

Pupils are actively encouraged to find their voice and to listen to the views and contributions of others. Pupils' views on the work of school are gathered through pupil interviews and questionnaires. Pupils' in year 6 are involved in elections for school council, seeing first-hand the election process at work and the value in working for the common good rather than for oneself. Pupils in Year 6 are currently applying their knowledge of food production to campaigning for school to buy fairtrade tea, coffee and fruit. Through the history syllabus pupils learn that they live in a country with a long history of people working for change, upholding peoples' rights and challenging injustice. They learn about the work of organisations such as Unicef, the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child, the responsibilities that run alongside these, the rights of Persons with Disabilities and what these mean for them and for all school community.

The Rule of Law

Through the school's Code of Conduct, children are provided with a moral compass which is in a language they can easily understand. The Code of Conduct applies equally to staff and children and reinforces the link between attending this school and being a good citizen in the community with children regularly reminded that they are ambassadors for our school in the local area. Strong links with Merseyside Police, Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service help to reinforce the rationale behind laws, the protection they afford to us and the consequences of breaking them. Through restorative justice, older children are helped to take greater responsibility for their actions and

the impact of these on fellow pupils and their families. Where appropriate this is supported by the school's police officer. Through participation in the multi-agency Your Choice Programme, pupils explore the consequences of anti-social behaviour, particularly in relation to public transport. They learn to appreciate the role of emergency services and the impact of hoax calls, vandalism, trespass on railways and the dangers of fire. One to one support is given to pupils by Families Intervention Programme (FIP) whose behaviour out of school is a concern and who are considered to be at risk of being recruited into a gang. Parents/Carers are always consulted first and are often the referring agency.

Individual Liberty

The school's behaviour policy aims to help children to 'do the right thing'. Developing self-discipline, honesty and integrity are reinforced in the language used by staff when talking about behaviour as the right or wrong 'choice' and the impact of these on others. Through PSHE and E-Safety as well as the daily interactions in and around school, children are taught about boundaries, rights and responsibilities. Opportunities to reflect, repair and rebuild are integral to our response to inappropriate choices so that children learn mutual respect from their mistakes and are helped to grow as a result.

Mutual Respect

Since 2012, we have explicitly taught our key values, one of which is 'Respect'. We did this because we felt that focusing on a different value each month in detail would provide children with greater understanding of what each value means. The chosen value is displayed around school and on our values tree in the foyer so that all who visit our school are aware of it. Above all, staff model the chosen value and lead by example as we believe strongly that children learn what they live.

Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Through the prescribed R.E. syllabus, *Come and See*, children are taught about the major world religions. As a Catholic school, we welcome the opportunity to prepare our children for all the richness that living in a diverse society can offer. In the words of the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales *Within our schools we are seeking to educate all pupils of whatever religion to be able to live a way of life that integrates their beliefs with all other aspects of what it means to be human. As part of this, they must learn to live alongside others who are different and hold alternative views, including religious views.* Through literature, history, geography, PSHE children learn about prejudice and intolerance and where this can lead. Cultural events such as Remembrance Day, Holocaust Memorial Day, Martin Luther King Day provide rich material for assemblies, visits, visitors and reflections. Children and families who are of other faiths and none are made to feel welcome and included. Support for pupils with EAL and for their families includes specialist advice, one to one teaching and team around the child meetings. The school has a zero tolerance of prejudice based behaviour of any kind, sexist, racist, disabilist, homophobic and trans phobic language and views will always be challenged by staff, whether used by pupils, parents or visitors., of any sort and strictly adheres to the Local Authority's recording and reporting requirements.

Posters around school and on the school's website reinforce this message and outline the definition of hate crime and advice on the support for victims. The school has established effective links with SIGMA, Merseyside Police's Hate Crime Unit to support the curriculum and address any concerns within the wider community.

Incidents are very rare and are always followed up with a letter to both the parents of the perpetrator and victim, with opportunities to learn/read, research given to the individual because in the words of Nelson Mandela "No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love....."

Communicating our Values and Expectations

During induction meetings for parents and children joining the school, staff set out clearly the expectation that by opting for All Saints, parents and pupils are agreeing to uphold our values and embrace fully our curriculum offer. This message is reinforced through the school's Home-School Agreement which all parents/cares are expected to sign. Equally, staff, on appointment, are made fully aware of their responsibility to promote the school's values and not to say or do anything that may appear to contrary to these.

Partnerships

The school is a signatory to the Anthony Walker foundation whose motto is "Diversity, Integration, Racial Harmony through Sport, Music, Education".

We have also signed up to UNICEF's Rights Respecting Schools' Award which aims to put the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child at the heart of school life, empowering children and valuing their ideas and contributions.

The school's Behaviour Policy is based on five articles from the UNICEF convention. These are:

Article 28. All children have the right to a good education

Article 19. All children have the right to be protected from being hurt or mistreated in body or mind.

Article 23. All children have the right to special education and care if they have a disability.

Article 16. All children have the right to privacy.

Article 31. All children have the right to relax and play and to join in a wide range of activities.