

# British Values Statement

St Edward's Catholic Primary School is privileged to represent a diverse range of home backgrounds. Our curriculum is designed over a 4 year cycle, linking with the national curriculum, and importantly reflecting the continents our families represent – Britain, Europe, Africa and Asia. Our curriculum also ensures the interests of pupils are provided for and supports them in becoming good local, national and global citizens of the future.

## **The Department for Education states that there is a need:**

“To create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs”.

Our school reflects British values in all that we do. We nurture our pupils on their journey through life so they grow in to caring, responsible and tolerant adults who make a positive difference to British society and to the wider world. We encourage them to be creative, unique, open-minded and independent individuals, respectful of themselves and others in our school, our local community and beyond.

St Edward's actively promote British values in the following ways supported by our Learning Behaviours known as the 5 “R's” which are integral to every lesson –

**Resilient:** organisation, perseverance, focus.

**Reflective:** belonging, self-awareness, value, understanding feelings.

**Recognise:** knowledge of feelings, control impulses and express curiosity, manage feelings.

**Respect:** Equality, compassion, kindness

**Responsible:** Group work, responsibility, communication, honesty, problem solve, takes risks

## **Democracy**

Pupils are encouraged to debate topics of interest, express their views and make a meaningful contribution to the running of the school. They are able to do this in a number of ways e.g. PSHE (Jigsaw); curriculum planning; school council; questionnaires and surveys; assemblies.

## **Rule of Law**

We have a clear positive behaviour policy that helps pupils to make good choices about their behaviour and offers them opportunity to reflect on how to do something differently. Pupils are helped to distinguish right from wrong, in the classroom, during assemblies and in the playground. This is supported by a Restorative Justice approach. Pupils are encouraged to respect the law and we encourage visits from services such as the Police, Fire and Ambulance services to help reinforce the message.

## **Individual Liberty**

At school, pupils are encouraged, and given the freedom to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment, e.g. Challenging themselves in their learning. They are supported to develop self-knowledge, self-confidence and a growth mind set in all areas of school life. Pupils are taught to understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms in a safe way, e.g. PSHE lessons. They have key responsibilities in school like being a Playground Buddy, School Councillor and a member of the Chaplaincy Team.

## **Mutual Respect and Tolerance of Those with Different Faiths and Beliefs**

Respect is one of our 4 core values. Pupils understand that respect is shown to everyone, both adults and children. We help them to develop an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other cultures. Staff and pupils are encouraged to challenge prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour. Links with local faith communities and visits to places of worship is promoted and people from different faiths are invited to school to share their experiences in assemblies and in class. Through the RE and PSHE curriculum pupils are encouraged to discuss and respect differences and similarities between people. We offer a culturally rich and diverse curriculum in which all major religions are studied.