

BRITISH VALUES STATEMENT AND PREVENT STRATEGY

As a Christian school we teach Christian values which include respect for people of all faiths and those who do not have a faith. We value the diversity of backgrounds and faiths of all pupils, families and wider school community. Our Vision and Values document states that one of the aims of our school is for the children to, "Discover a family, reaching out to the wider world, caring for and respecting the needs, beliefs and cultures of others as they become responsible, global citizens."

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".

The Department for Education defines British Values as follows:

Respect for democracy and support or participation in the democratic process

Respect for the basis on which the law is made and applies in England

Support for equality of opportunity for all

Support and respect for the liberties of all within the law

Respect for and tolerance of different faiths and religious and other beliefs

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

At St Nicholas CE Primary School, we actively promote British values in the following ways:

DEMOCRACY

All children are encouraged to debate topics of interest, express their views and make a meaningful contribution to the running of the school on matters that directly involve pupils. Children also have the opportunity to have their voices heard through pupil questionnaires and pupil surveys.

The principle of democracy is explored in the curriculum as well as during assemblies and special days, for example, we held a mock election to coincide with the UK general election.

Our school behaviour policy involves rewards which the pupils have discussed.

Our class councils and school councils have elected members. They are very active and make suggestions about how our school can improve further. They have had active involvement in the selection processes of new staff.

RULE OF LAW

Our school follows four 'Core Rules', which are integral to our learning and ethos every day.

School rules and expectations are clear, fair and regularly promoted.

Pupils are always helped to distinguish right from wrong, in the classroom, during assemblies and on the playground.

Pupils are encouraged to respect the law and we enjoy visits from authorities such as the police, fire service, ambulance, etc. to help reinforce this message.

The Behaviour and Anti-Bullying policies set out a zero tolerance baseline for any form of aggression, abuse or violence, which extends to pupils, staff and parents and carers.

INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged, and given the freedom to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. eg. by signing up for extra-curricular clubs.

Pupils are supported to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence.

Pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their behaviour and our pastoral support reinforces the importance of making the right choices.

Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our e-safety teaching and PSHE lessons.

Vulnerable pupils are protected and stereotypes challenged. A strong anti-bullying culture is embedded in the school and any form of bullying is challenged and addressed. The school governing body has taken an active role in this and the results of whole-school pupil and parent surveys are discussed at meetings. The school also operates a robust system of logging incidents.

Pupils have key roles and responsibilities in school e.g. House Captains, Sports Captains, Head Boy, Head Girl, Playground Buddies, etc.

MUTUAL RESPECT AND TOLERANCE OF THOSE WITH DIFFERENT FAITHS AND BELIEFS

Respect is one of the core values of our school. The pupils know and understand that it is expected that respect is shown to everyone, adults and children.

Pupils are helped to acquire an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other cultures and ways of life.

Staff and pupils are encouraged to challenge prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour.

Links and visits are promoted with local faith communities and places of worship. E.g. Members of different faiths or religions are invited to school to share their knowledge and enhance learning within assemblies and in class.

Through the PSHE and RE curriculums pupils are encouraged to discuss and respect differences between people, such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, gender or sexuality and differences of family situations.

Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudiced-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE.

We offer a culturally rich and diverse curriculum in which all major religions are studied and respected and global dimension work embedded in many of our Creative Curriculum topics. These curriculum topics offer children the chance to reflect on our core values and British values.

Prevent Strategy

St Nicholas CE Primary School is committed to providing a secure environment for pupils, where children feel safe and are kept safe. All adults at St Nicholas CE Primary School recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility irrespective of the role they undertake or whether their role has direct contact or responsibility for children or not. In adhering to school policy, and the procedures therein, staff and visitors will contribute to St Nicholas CE Primary School's delivery of the outcomes to all children, as set out in s10 (2) of the Children Act 2004. This Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Safeguarding Policy is one element within our overall school arrangements to Safeguard and Promote the Welfare of all Children in line with our statutory duties set out at s175 of the Education Act 2002.

School Ethos and Practice

When operating school policy, St Nicholas CE Primary School uses the following accepted Governmental definition of extremism which is: 'Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs; and/or calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas'. There is no place for extremist views of any kind in our school, whether from internal sources – pupils, staff or governors, or external sources - school community, external agencies or individuals. Our pupils see our school as a safe place where they can explore controversial issues safely and where our teachers encourage and facilitate this – we have a duty to ensure this happens. As a school we recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for children and so should be addressed as a safeguarding concern as set out in this policy. We also recognise that if we fail to challenge extremist views we are failing to protect our pupils. Extremists of all persuasions aim to develop destructive relationships between different communities by promoting division, fear and mistrust of others based on ignorance or prejudice and thereby limiting the life chances of young people. Education is a powerful weapon against this; equipping young people with the knowledge, skills and critical thinking, to challenge and debate in an informed way.

Therefore, at St Nicholas CE Primary School we will provide a broad and balanced curriculum, delivered by skilled professionals, so that our pupils are enriched, understand and become tolerant of difference and diversity and also to ensure that they thrive, feel valued and not marginalised. Furthermore at St Nicholas CE Primary School we are aware that young people can be exposed to extremist influences or prejudiced views from an early age which emanate from a variety of sources and media, including via the internet, and at times pupils may themselves reflect or display views that may be discriminatory, prejudiced or extremist, including using derogatory language. Any prejudice, discrimination or extremist views, including derogatory language, displayed by pupils or staff will always be challenged and where appropriate dealt with in line with our Behaviour Policy for pupils and the Code of Conduct for staff. Where misconduct by a member of staff is proven the matter may be dealt with through the school's disciplinary procedures.

As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities school staff will be alert to:

- Disclosures by pupils of their exposure to the extremist actions, views or materials of others outside of school, such as in their homes or community groups, especially where pupils have not actively sought these out
- Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images
- Pupils accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites
- Parental reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance
- Neighbouring schools, local authority services and police reports of issues affecting pupils in other schools or settings
- Pupils voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives
- Use of extremist or 'hate' terms to exclude others or incite violence
- Intolerance of difference, whether secular or religious or, in line with our equalities policy, views based on, but not exclusive to, gender, disability, homophobia, race, colour or culture
- Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others
- Anti-Western or Anti-British views

Any incidents will be reported to the Designated Lead for safeguarding (Headteacher) who will liaise with the LA Channel Team. All staff have received training on the Prevent Strategy and on Channel.