



FIVE STONES

Learning Federation

Five Stones Learning Federation
British Values Policy

Adopted: September 2020
Review: September 2021

Vision

"Life in all its fullness"

Our vision guides us in all that we hope to be, enabling every part of our community to grow and develop. This means growing in body, mind and spirit in order to flourish and experience the joy and hope of, 'life in all its fullness' (John 10.10).

Introduction

The DfE have recently reinforced the 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"*

Rationale

The Governing Body wishes to make every effort to prevent and protect pupils, families and staff from extremism in all its forms and continually reinforces these British Values in school. However, as a Church of England School we also hold Christian values which we believe are important values for all humanity. Our school ethos is based on our core Christian values - Respect, Responsibility, Thankfulness, Love, Peace, Courage, Hope, Friendship, Forgiveness, Truth, Kindness, Compassion, Perseverance, Creativity, Justice, and Wisdom. British Values, Christian Values and the UNHRC Articles are embedded in the National and wider curriculum we offer.

Democracy

Democracy is an important value at our school and is consequently extensive as democratic processes are embedded in the way we work at St. Michael's. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our 'Pupil Parliament', Learning Conferences and Pupil Questionnaires. The election of class leaders for the Pupil Parliament are based solely on pupil votes. At Class Council meetings, any concerns are passed onto their representative who brings them to Pupil Parliament meetings. The children have worked together and agreed sets of charters, which we at St. Michael's C of E Primary School actively work and live by. These charters are available in each classroom and are actively used by children and adults influencing what is an agreed acceptable behaviour. Our School Positive Behaviour Policy promotes rewards.

Individual Liberty

Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices at our school, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we provide boundaries for our children to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and planned curriculum. 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 Online Safety teaching and PSHE/RSE lessons. Pupils are given the freedom to make choices, e.g. signing up for extra-curricular clubs, choose the level of challenge in some lessons and are becoming increasingly more involved in child-led learning. Within the curriculum we promote enquiry based learning that enables children to become independent learners. We work with agencies such as NSPCC, Durham Constabulary, the Health Service and many more.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Members of different faiths or religions have shared their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. Visits to local places of worship also shape the RE curriculum across year groups. With the curriculum children have the time to reflect on their own beliefs and discuss their opinions with others so their spiritual development is enhanced. The school provides a culture where pupils can do this and celebrate diversity and through developing every child's awareness of their place in a culturally diverse society. We want our children to understand the wider community they live in as well as the global community and how they can contribute to both and make a difference.

We actively promote British Values and this also means challenging pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views. St. Michael's works closely with parents and the community to ensure inclusivity.

This is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity in our local community which is by large white British. Collective Worship and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE/RSE.

We work whenever we can with different groups and agencies to give our children access to different views. Our International School status and our work in RE and PSHE/RSE all reinforce and broaden our children's knowledge and understanding.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school PSHE/RSE sessions. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Our positive behaviour policy reflects our aim to teach children about the importance of respect, justice and consequence in a nurturing supportive environment that develops the whole child. Visits to and visitors from authorities such as the Police; Fire Service; paramedics etc. are regular parts of our school calendar and help reinforce this message.

The importance of laws or rules is reinforced in many ways. The class identities agreed ways of behaving agreed with each class at the start of the school year are linked to their own 'Class Charter' by which they as a group choose to abide.

Our behaviour system is aligned to an agreed set of codes and if children are given warnings / red Dojo's, this is always set against the behaviour charter agreed by the class. Children are asked to identify which aspect of the code they have broken to ensure that this connection is made and understood. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken

Mutual Respect

As a church school, part of our school ethos and positive behaviour policy revolves around core Christian values for life such as 'Respect', and pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies related to what this means and how it is shown. Displays around the school promote the core Christian values and this is celebrated in Collective Worship as example to all.

Collective Worship is based on 'Values for Life' and themes and are central to how we expect everyone to go about their life at our Church of England school. Children and adults alike, including visitors, are challenged if they are disrespectful in any way. Values are highly visible around the school and can be seen in posters, certificates and as part of our agreed codes of behaviour.

We regularly ask parents for their views on our school and how it meets the needs of their child in terms of their happiness and wellbeing. We hope that by living in an environment where mutual respect is demonstrated daily they will enter the wider world understanding its importance.