



Promoting British Values Statement

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” These values are taught explicitly through:

- Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE),
- Assemblies
- Social, Moral, Cultural Development (SMSC)
- Religious Education (RE),
- Planning and delivering a broad and balanced curriculum.

British Values also link closely to our School Vision and Christian Values

St Martin’s C of E Primary School is proud to be part of a rich and diverse society and we seek opportunities to celebrate this in all aspects of school life. We actively promote our values through our assemblies and whole school systems and structures such as electing and running a successful School Council and providing opportunities for pupil leadership and provide training for Peer Tutoring. We ensure our curriculum planning and delivery includes real opportunities for exploring these values. Actively promoting our values also means challenging pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental values, including ‘extremist’ views.

At our school, we uphold and teach pupils about the British Values in the following ways.

Democracy

Democracy is an important value at our school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council. The elections of members of the School Council are based on pupil votes. Children also have a voice via the classroom where they can raise concerns, share ideas and celebrate individual achievements. The children have worked together and agreed a ‘Class Code of Conduct’. These codes are on display in each classroom and are actively used by children and adults to influence others’ behaviour. The children have also been responsible for the development of our Christian Values.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws and rules, whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout the school day. Our school systems and rules are clear and our Behaviour Policy outlines expectations, rewards and consequences. 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. Visits from authorities such as the police and fire service form part of our curriculum and help to reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. We educate and provide boundaries for our pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment, a planned curriculum and a stimulating and empowering education. 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. 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.

Mutual Respect

Respect is a key aspect of our school vision. This can be seen and felt in the ethos of our school. The pupils know and understand that it is expected and that respect is shown to every person, their environment and property. Respect at St Martin's underpins our work every day both in and out of the classroom. Values are highly visible around the school and can be seen in posters, displays and in pupils work.

Tolerance of Those with Different Faiths and Beliefs

As a Church School, we promote our Christian values and ethos. These values, along with our vision actively promote tolerance, understanding and respect of different faiths and beliefs. 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. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudiced-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE. We explore and learn about different cultures and religions across all aspects of the curriculum.