



Our Lady & St Joseph Catholic Academy

Promoting British Values: Preparing our children for life in Modern Britain.



The definition of British Values was set out by the government in the 2011 Prevent Strategy and added to Ofsted inspection guidance in July 2014: "To create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote fundamental British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs." At Our Lady & St Joseph Catholic Academy these values are regularly promoted through teaching and learning, a comprehensive programme of assemblies and a positive behaviour policy allowing pupils to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.

'With grace and humility, glorify the Lord by your life.'

We want to work with each and every family to allow every single child to make the most of their potential and achieve. Our mission statement sums up what we are about and what all our responsibilities are. All of our work is based firmly on the Gospel Values and Virtues. These Values and Virtues underpin everything we do and impact on all aspects of school life.

Within school we use the Gospel Virtues, sometimes referred to as the Jesuit Virtues, to support the children as they develop as members of our faith community. The Gospel Virtues are described as: loving, hopeful, attentive, learned, faith filled, generous, eloquent, intentional, compassionate, active, truthful, prophetic, curious, wise, grateful and discerning.

Gospel values "...are a guarantee of peace and of collaboration among all citizens in the shared commitment to serving the common good". Saint John Paul II (Angelus address, 2004)

British values have evolved from these and have been most recently defined by OFSTED under four headings: Democracy, The Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs.

The table below outlines how values are promoted and regularly reinforced at Our Lady & St Joseph Catholic Academy:

British Value: Democracy		British Value: The rule of the Law	
<p>Gospel Virtues: Discerning, eloquent, intentional, prophetic</p> <p>School values: Responsibility, inclusion, equality, contribution, honesty, trust, freedom, tolerance, integrity, community and achievement.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">How do we promote it?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ School and learning council- regular meetings to discuss issues raised in class council meetings. School councillors voted for by their class, reflecting our British electoral system and demonstrating democracy in action. ➤ Circle time ➤ Behaviour Policy - resolving conflict fairly. ➤ class debates 	<p>Gospel Virtues: Truthful, generous, learned, active.</p> <p>School values: Equality, challenge, contribution, responsibility, integrity, trust, community, teamwork, honesty</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">How do we promote it?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Behaviour policy- the importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country are consistently reinforced. Pupil are taught school rules from an early age. These rules are displayed around the school and in every classroom and are actively used by children and adults influencing what is acceptable behaviour. Pupils are taught the values and reasons behind rules and 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 help reinforce this message. ➤ Local History ➤ Biblical stories- what is right and wrong ; Sacrament of Reconciliation

British Value: Individual Liberty		British Value: Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those with Different Faiths and Beliefs	
<p>Gospel Virtues: wise, curious, faith filled, grateful</p> <p>School values: Honesty, humility, courage, freedom, teamwork, perseverance, determination, curiosity, growth, spirituality.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">How do we promote it?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pupils are actively encouraged to make informed choices, knowing they are in a safe and supportive environment e.g. signing up for clubs, independently choosing the level of challenge in all lessons ➤ Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely e.g eSafety curriculum, Protective Behaviours Curriculum ➤ Prayer partners (rec/yr6) ➤ School Worship Team ➤ Playleaders/ House Captains ➤ Behaviour policy- reinforces that children are responsible for their own actions. ➤ Pupil voice-allows children to express their own views. 	<p>Gospel Virtues: loving, hopeful, compassionate, attentive</p> <p>School values: Inclusion, equality, tolerance, communication, courage, appreciation, teamwork, understanding, perseverance, determination, loyalty, acceptance, faith, confidence, determination, family, spirituality, achievement, community, charity.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">How do we promote it?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the community treat each other with respect, which is reinforced through our behaviour policy and teaching of the Gospels ➤ We actively promote diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures. Religious Education lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others. Members of different faiths and cultures are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. ➤ Children and staff's family heritages are acknowledged and celebrated.

'What we are called to respect in each person is first of all his life, his physical integrity, his dignity and the rights deriving from that dignity, his reputation, his property, his ethnic and cultural identity, his ideas and his political choices. We are therefore called to think, speak and write respectfully of the other, not only in his presence, but always and everywhere, avoiding unfair criticism or defamation.'

(Pope Francis)