

## St Andrew's – British values

***Every Child A Champion in Their Own Right. Matthew 5.16 - "Let Your Light Shine."***

The DfE have 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."***

- As of November 2014, schools must promote British values.
- Advice from the DfE is to do so through SMSC, though Ofsted will assess it through the curriculum too.
- Values won't be assumed because we demand they are, particularly if they're very different from those at home. They have to be arrived at through mutual exploration and understanding.

### **What are British values?**

- democracy;
- the rule of law;
- individual liberty;
- mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith

*School Inspection Handbook from September 2015*

### **We believe it is important that children are taught:**

- to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence
- to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England
- to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely
- to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England
- to acquire an appreciation for and respect for their own and other cultures in order to further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions
- to show respect for other people, and
- to show respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.

The Government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy, and these values were reiterated in 2014. At St Andrew's these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways.

### **Democracy**

- Children have many opportunities for their voices to be heard.
- We have a school council, called the POP (Pupil Opinion Party) Group which meets regularly to discuss issues raised by younger members, called MOPS (Mini Opinion Party).
- Members of the POPs and MOPS attend Governor Finance Committee meetings and Worship/RE Working Party meetings. They are encouraged to plan projects to benefit the

school and after careful planning they are given a budget and are able to genuinely effect change within the school.

- The POP Group is comprised of the House Captains and House Vice Captains, who are voted for by the members of their House.
- Children have an annual questionnaire with which they are able to put forward their views about the school.

### **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 assemblies.
- Understanding school and class rules.
- Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and laws - that they 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.
- School Discipline Policy.
- School Anti Bullying Policy.
- Games and rules.
- Pupils have regular opportunities to reflect e.g. Learning, their behaviour, during assemblies

### **Individual Liberty**

- Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment.
- As a school we educate and provide boundaries for pupils to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and empowering education.
- Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSHME lessons.
- Pupils are given the freedom to make choices – eg extra-curricular clubs, Pupil Voice lessons, leading worship.
- Pupils as monitors with responsibilities.
- Pupil questionnaires – all pupils have a voice and are listened to.
- Response to behaviour incidents

### **Mutual Respect**

- Mutual respect is at the heart of our values.
- Pupils learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others.
- All members of the school community are expected to treat each other with respect. □ RE curriculum □ Competitive sports.
- Christian values.
- Positive relationships encouraged and modelled, pupil – pupil, adult – pupil.
- Uniform to remove barriers to learning.

### **Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs**

- St Andrew's is situated in an area which is not greatly culturally diverse, therefore we place a great emphasis on promoting diversity with the children.
- Assemblies are regularly planned to address this issue either directly or through the inclusion of stories and celebrations from a variety of faiths and cultures.
- RE, PSHE.
- Faith Days.
- Children learn about places of worship that are important to different faiths.

At St Andrew's we will actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views.

*Summer 2021*  
*Next review Summer 2022*