



# **St. Anne's CE Primary and Nursery School**

## **British Values Policy**

**Reviewed and updated**

**September 2021 (Mrs. L. Sixsmith)**

# Minds to learn, hearts to care.



Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment.

And the second is like it: "Love your neighbour as yourself." *Matthew 22:37-39*



*Our school vision is to be the best version of ourselves  
that God created us to be - with minds to learn and hearts to care.*

Our values are the building blocks for strong foundations for lifelong learning and lifelong faith.



## Vision and Values

Our school vision is to be the best version of ourselves that God created us to be – with minds to learn and hearts to care.

**Who are we as a school? This is our deeply Christian vision which is firmly rooted in the bible.**

Jesus summed up his most important teaching by quoting the greatest commandment – love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul with all your mind. And love your neighbour as yourself. (Matthew 22v37-39) At St Anne's our vision is for everyone who is part of our school community to live life to the full and to treat everyone with compassion and respect.

This vision shapes all we do and helps us understand who we are as a school, why we are here, and then how we live. Our values are the building blocks for strong foundations for lifelong learning and lifelong faith.

## **Why are we here? These are our values:**

### **Loving God with all of our heart**

We want everyone at St Anne's to be the best version of themselves. We believe this is about everyone being authentic, open and honest.

We are dedicated to continuous improvement, challenging ourselves, celebrating our successes and always aspiring to be "the best we can be".

To enable each child and adult to flourish and achieve.

### **Loving God with all our soul**

We want to nurture the spiritual life of everyone in our school family recognising that "spirituality is like a bird; if you hold it too tightly, it chokes; if you hold it too loosely, it flies away. Fundamental to spirituality is the absence of force." Rabbi Hugo Gryn

To promote our Christian ethos and values through lively, intelligent and creative participation.

To provide an inviting, inclusive school environment where all members of the school community, of all faiths or none, are valued, respected and care for one another.

To encourage and develop links between the school, home, our parishes and the local, national and global community.

### **Loving God with all our mind**

To provide a high quality and nurturing learning environment.

To be dedicated to continuous improvement, challenging ourselves, celebrating our successes and always aspiring to be "the best we can be".

To enable each child and adult to flourish and achieve.

**How then do we live? All of this shapes our school life.**

Daily collective worship is at the centre of school life and enables children to experience the diversity of Christian practice and tradition.

High quality, effective, academic religious education allows pupils and adults alike to flourish.

Throughout all our school life our Christian vision and values promote social and cultural development through the practice of forgiveness and reconciliation. They encourage good mental health and enable children and adults, whatever their background or ability, to flourish and live well together.

The vision is used to ensure our policies, curriculum and extracurricular opportunities meet the academic and spiritual needs of all learners.

We describe all our activities in terms of how the vision and values inspire our whole school community, children and adults, to engage in social action and to be courageous advocates for change in their local, national and global communities

Our Christian vision supports the character and moral development of all pupils and adults, giving them aspiration for themselves and hope for the communities of which they are a part. It fosters dignity and respect, enabling everyone to be the person God created them to be, to achieve the most they can, and to inspire hope for others in the local community and beyond.

## **Promoting British Values at St. Anne's CE Primary School (October 2021)**

The Department of Education state 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 Government set out its definition of British Values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy and these values were reiterated by the Prime Minister in 2014.

At St. Anne's CE Primary School, these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

These values are taught explicitly through Personal, Social, Health and Emotional (PSHE) and Religious Education (RE). We also teach British Values through planning and delivering a broad and balanced curriculum. We have achieved the following external accreditation which demonstrates evidence of our commitment to British Values:

**Ofsted grade of 'Outstanding' behaviour (January 2015)**

**SIAMS judgement of 'Outstanding' across all areas (July 2015)**

**UNICEF UK Rights Respecting School Award -Record of Commitment (ROC) July 2014**

**Rights Respecting Bronze Level 1 April 2015**

**Rights Respecting Silver Level July 2020**

**Global Neighbours Award Silver July 2020**

The school takes opportunities to actively promote British Values through our worship and whole school systems and structures, such as electing and running a successful Pupil Task Force of eight different Pupil Voice Groups: Fairtrade Team, Planet Protectors Eco Team, Junior PACT and Junior Road Safety Officers, Right2B Rights Respecting, Charities Team, Anti- Bullying Group and the Bike-It Crew. Coordinated by the Chaplain, they are democratically elected and each has representation on the Junior Leadership Team, which in turn feeds back to the Head Teacher, the Senior Leadership Team and the Governing Body, either verbally or via a termly written report. We also actively promote British Values through ensuring our curriculum planning and delivery includes real opportunities for exploring these values. Actively promoting British Values also means challenging pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views.

At St. Anne's we uphold and teach pupils about the British Values which are defined as:

- **Democracy**
- **Rule of Law**
- **Individual Liberty**
- **Mutual Respect**
- **Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.**

### **Democracy.**

Democracy is an important value at our school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our Task Force of eight pupil voice groups, each with representation on the Junior Leadership Team. The elections of members of the Pupil Task Force are based on pupil votes.

The children have worked together and agreed a set of codes which we at St. Anne's actively work and live by; this is our 'Class Charter.' These codes are available in each classroom and are actively used by the children and adults to influence others' behaviour. In addition, the Playground, Library, Lunchtime and Cloakroom Charters equally reflect pupil viewpoints.

### **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 regular school days. If children are given verbal warnings, this is always set against the agreed school behaviour policy. 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 are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce the message.

### **Individual Liberty.**

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a Rights Respecting School, we educate and provide boundaries for our children to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment, a planned curriculum and an 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.

## **Mutual Respect.**

Respect is one of the core values of our school. This can be seen and felt in our pervading ethos. The pupils know and understand that it is expected and imperative that respect is shown to everyone, whatever differences we may have and to everything, however big or small. The core value of respect at St. Anne's CE Primary underpins our work every day, both in and out of the classroom. Christian Values are highly visible around the school and can be seen in posters, certificates and as part of our agreed codes.

## **Tolerance of those with 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, where the vast majority are white British. Collective worship and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE.

## **Global Links**

**2013- 2018**

### **Southern Link**

We are very proud to have had links with a primary school in Bangladesh over this period. During this time, we hosted two staff visits from the school and also sent two of our own staff (Mr. Browell and Miss Taylor) to visit the school in Bangladesh.

### **European Link**

The school had a long-standing link to a primary school in Coye la Foret, south of Paris. The current Head Teacher brokered this link via a Durham LA partnership initiative (2013) which involved a stay in Coye La Foret, to source a compatible partner school. St. Anne's then hosted annual visits from the French pupils, the Head Teacher and their staff for two- week spells at a time for the following three years to 2018.

French, although not statutory below Key Stage 2, was taught throughout the school from Reception upwards and Year 6 accessed a term of German to aid transition to the next phase of their education

### **British Link**

St. Anne's had links to an inner-city primary in Woolwich during this period to provide our pupils with a comparison to a different location from their own.

## **2018- to present**

### **Southern Link**

St. Anne's now has a link with a primary school in Chile and has hosted the Head Teacher and two teaching staff for a two- week stay (September 2019), in order to develop a forward plan.

### **European Link**

We also links to two primary schools in Spain and have hosted staff from both schools for week-long stays in both cases (2019-2020).

To complement the above links to Spanish-speaking countries, all Key Stage two pupils have pen pals in each of the above schools and are taught Spanish by a subject specialist from the local comprehensive.

We have celebrated 'European Day of Languages' as a whole school, encouraging children to research and discover differences and similarities between us and our European neighbours. Likewise, we have held events such as 'Virtual Airport' and 'French Bistro Evening' and use opportunities for example the Olympics and the World Cup to study and learn about life and culture in countries which participate.

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