



## **Promoting British Values at St. Michael's Church of England Primary School**

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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.”*

The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy and these values have been reiterated by the Prime Minister this year. At St. Michael's Primary School, these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

### **Democracy:**

Democracy is rife within the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council and Pupil questionnaires. Children elected to be on the School Council represent the views of their classmates on various issues. The children are frequently encouraged to work as teams to make decisions and to hear and respect the views of all parties. Where a decision cannot be made, voting is encouraged. The children also get the opportunity to vote on certain activities and treats.

### **The Rule of Law:**

The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school or country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. 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 are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message. The United Nation Convention of the Rights of the Child is used to illustrate the importance of rights, as well as the responsibilities that go hand in hand with these rights.



### **Individual Liberty:**

Within school, 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 young pupils to make choices safely, through of provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advise how to exercise these safely, for example through our e-Safety and P.S.H.E. lessons. Whether it is through choice of challenge, choice of school lunch, of how they record, of participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

### **Mutual Respect:**

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy has revolved around our Core Values which are Love, Resilience, Creativity and Integrity. These underpin all that we do at St. Michael's. The school's values permeate all aspects of the curriculum and are modelled by adults and children alike. The school promotes respect and compassion for others and this is reiterated in our classroom environments, as well as our behaviour policy.

### **Tolerance of those 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. School resources are purchased with diversity in mind. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and P.S.H.E. Such issues are also embedded in the curriculum. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school.