

ST GILBERT'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Promoting Fundamental British Values at St Gilbert's Church of England Primary School.

Introduction:

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 this year in *Promoting Fundamental British Values as part of SMSC in Schools, DfE November 2014.*

At St Gilberts C of E Primary School these values are reinforced regularly alongside our vision and values.

To inspire a love of learning

- Inspirational teaching that enables all our children to flourish as confident and independent learners
- A vibrant curriculum that fires each child's imagination to explore and fulfil their own potential
- A loving, Christian school family that values every child and takes pride in their achievements

It is in the context of our vision and values that this statement should be read.

We actively teach and promote Fundamental British values in the following ways:

Democracy:

Democracy is richly embedded within the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through a variety of opportunities including pupil questionnaires and leadership opportunities such as showing parents around our school.

Our Young Governors comprise of two representatives from each class from Year 2 upwards. They are voted for through a democratic process at the beginning of each year by their class mates. The Young Governors meet regularly with Miss Hill and Mrs Munson-Pike to discuss issues raised by their peers and to plan ways in which to develop the school as a whole including its curriculum.

We also have an Eco Committee and Eco Ambassadors again voted in by their peers. These members of our school community led by Mrs Howson are key leaders in developing sustainability in our school.

Our Charity Club is also able to select charities whom the school is able to support through events such as Love in a Box involving external members of our local and national communities. Other pupils also come forwards asking to raise the profile of specific charities, something we embrace.

Our Business Club also raises funds through competitions held in school and cake stalls. The committee is then able to vote on the use of the funds they raise for the development of our school

The Committees and and Clubs are genuinely able to effect change within the school and also within the wider world using their own budget. Recent examples of this are the purchase of IT resources through the Business Club and developments for the playground. The School Council also took part in the Speakers School Council Awards in 2014 and recently decided to sponsor a child in Sudan and as part of their fund raising efforts; they raised funds through a pyjama day. Our Eco Committee, Eco Ambassadors and Green Group were also successful in attaining our Fifth Eco-Flag 2014.

The Rule of Law:

The importance of laws, whether they are those that govern the class, the school, or the country, is consistently reinforced St Gilbert's CE Primary School

Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and laws. They learn that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when rules and laws are broken.

Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service help reinforce this message. We also have four JPCSO's who support pupils on the playground and are supported and trained by our local PCSO.

Pupils' pride in the school is shown by their excellent conduct, manners and punctuality. This is evidenced by lesson and general observations in and out of school as well as discussions with pupils, feedback from feeder schools and places we visit. This has been achieved through the embedding of our school values, supportive parents, governors and

high expectations of behaviour and learning from ALL staff. Our pupils can all articulate our school values and their learning targets, which are prominently displayed around the school and can talk about how the values relate to their behaviour and relationships within school.

Individual Liberty:

At St Gilbert's CE Primary School, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. Pupils clearly enjoy coming to school as reflected in our increasing attendance which is over 97%.

As a school we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education.

The pupils' Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development is well developed. We encourage our pupils to achieve their very best and to broaden their education to enable them to make informed decisions later in life as broad-minded and knowledgeable citizens. Pupils can reflect on their experiences in school, demonstrating imaginative and creative approaches and their curiosity for learning. They have a well - developed understanding of right and wrong through the use of positive role models in school and they understand right and wrong choices.

Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our eSafety and PSHE lessons.

We aim to have a strong Anti-Bullying culture at St Gilbert's CE Primary School. Any issues are dealt with swiftly. (See Behaviour, Anti-Bullying, Cyber-Bullying Policies on website.)

Whether it is through a choice of challenge, how they record their work or of participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices throughout their time at the school.

Pupils are taught at an age appropriate stage about health, medicines, drugs, relationships and puberty. The school has a SRE policy in place.

Mutual Respect:

As a Church of England school, our ethos is based around core Christian values including Mutual respect which is at the heart of our values.

Through our carefully chosen worship themes and PHSE lessons (using SEAL resources) children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others.

All members of the school community treat each other with respect. Children in Years 5 and 6 have recently organised an event for Evergreen Care Trust, an organisation that seeks to serve older and vulnerable adults in our community by improving their circumstances through advocacy, friendship and practical support. Our pupils formally invited them into the school, made cakes and sandwiches, and spent time talking with them, an aspect very important in ensuring our pupils have good relationships and respect throughout different generations and can learn about a time different to their own.

We have a raft of policies including SEND and Equality, agreed by all stakeholders which reinforce our commitment to valuing individuality and inclusion of all.

School has a reputation for sporting excellence with many Sports Ambassadors in school who were recently part of a successful application for a Sports Funding Development in school. We have been visited by Lord Coe and other famous sporting celebrities who inspire our pupils and through Inspire+ we run a mentoring programme for pupils increasing their confidence and self-esteem so impacting on their learning.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

We actively promote diversity through our learning about different faiths, beliefs and cultures and what it means to be British in a culturally diverse society. We are fortunate to be able to learn a great deal from some of our pupils who come from a different country

Collective Worship, Religious Education lessons and PSHE lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others.

Members of different faiths and religions are now being invited into school, to share their knowledge and to enhance learning for all age groups and our pupils are visiting places of worship that are important to different faiths.

A parent in school has recently begun a prayer group for parents held in school during the school day. A hugely powerful aspect of the school in that it provides staff, pupils, parents and Governors with the support and empowerment through prayer.

Being part of Britain:

We value and celebrate being part of Britain. In general terms, we celebrate traditions throughout the year. For example, Harvest festival, the Christmas Nativity and Easter, Divali. We also celebrate national and international events such as the Queen's jubilee and the London Olympics.

Further, children learn about being part of Britain from different perspectives. Geographically, they learn about their local environment and compare it with different places all around Great Britain, celebrating the diversity of people, customs and landscape.

Historically, the children learn about British history. This spans across many centuries and includes; the Viking settlers, the Tudors, The Great Fire of London, World War 2 and many famous British people, saints and inventors.

For more examples and relevant policies, please see our school website:
www.stgilberts.co.uk