



## **St Stephen's CofE First School**

### **British Values Statement**

#### OUR VISION:

WE ARE COMMITTED TO THE CHRISTIAN ETHOS - EVERY CHILD IS SPECIAL IN THE EYES OF GOD AND WE TEACH THAT ALL PEOPLE SHOULD LOVE, CARE FOR AND RESPECT ONE ANOTHER AND OUR PLANET.

*It is our ambition that all our pupils use our 6 Christian values **Confidence, Resilience, Empathy, Forgiveness, Love** and to be **Reflective** to achieve our vision and mission.*

**'A New Commandment I give you, 'Love one another as I have loved you.' John 13:34**

It is from this Commandment and the teachings of Jesus that we teach our children 6 Christian values.

Recommended by:	SC
Recommendation Date:	02.12.24
Ratified by:	Chair's Action/ LAGB
Signed:	
Position on the Board:	Chair of LAGB
Ratification Date	02.12.24
Next Review:	September 2025
Policy Tier (Central/Hub/School):	School



Our school is committed to actively promoting British values to ensure our pupils leave us fully prepared for life in modern Britain.

The government emphasises that all schools should ensure that they teach pupils about British values. We take every opportunity to promote the fundamental British values of:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Through the promotion of these values, our school aims to ensure pupils:

- Understand the democratic process and how citizens can have a say in decision making.
- Recognise the advantages of living under the rule of law and how law is essential for a safe society.
- Understand that there is a separation of power between the executive and the judiciary and why it exists.
- Understand the reasons for accountability of institutions and why courts maintain independence.
- Know why freedom of religion protects all faiths, as well as those with no faith.
- Accept that people who hold different religious beliefs should be tolerated and not discriminated against.
- Value the importance of identifying and combatting extremism.

We promote British values both within and beyond the classroom and these values are at the heart of our ethos.

Here are just some of the ways our school seeks to embed the teaching of British values.

## Democracy

1. That many of the school processes are democratic for instance School Council membership
2. Pupil voice opportunities enable pupils to have influence upon the life of the school
3. Older pupils can learn about democracy and debate it as a value and as a political system.
4. During assemblies using Picture news resources children explore and discuss democracy

## The rule of law

1. That the school rules apply to all pupils equally and that all pupils are subject to rules
2. Reflect upon why rules exist and are necessary and how fairness is attempted through systems of rules
3. Access to Police, and Health professionals to learn about the purpose behind particular sets of rules such as road safety.

## Individual liberty

1. Across the curriculum pupils are given opportunities to make choices and respect the choices of others.
2. Treating people how you wish to be treated. Consider how this golden rule might be practiced.
3. Across the curriculum pupils are made aware of the importance of taking responsibility for their choices.
4. During assemblies we explore individual liberties using resources such as picture news.
5. Through our values curriculum we teach - Every child is special in the eyes of god and we love, care for and respect one another and our planet.
6. Older pupils focus on key leaders who have advocated civil liberty such as Ghandi and Martin Luther King during RE sessions.

## Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

1. Staff model respectful behaviour towards each other, parents and pupils.
2. The environment is warm and welcoming, a source of pride for members of the school community.
3. Expectations for all pupils are extremely high when it comes to respect towards each other, all adults and the school environment
4. Use Thrive Approach & PSHE to explore mutual respect through problem solving activities
5. We define respect and tolerance through religious education and PSHE and values.
6. Courageous Advocacy agenda tied with CRST Social Justice.