

# CHRIST CHURCH (CHURCH OF ENGLAND) Schools of Tettenhall Wood



Grow and learn together in the presence of God.

## British Values Statement 2024

The Department for Education has introduced a statutory duty for schools to promote British Values more actively from September 2014, and to ensure they are taught in schools.

Christ Church (Church of England) Infant School and Nursery and Christ Church (Church of England) Junior School are committed to serving their community. They recognise the multi-cultural, multi-faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom. They also understand the vital role they have in ensuring that groups or individuals within the schools are not subjected to intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to unduly, or illegally, influence them.

They follow equal opportunities guidance which guarantees that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status, or similar. Christ Church (Church of England) Infant and Nursery School and Christ Church (Church of England) Junior School are dedicated to preparing students for their adult life beyond the formal, examined curriculum and ensuring that they promote and reinforce British Values to all their students.

The government set out its definition of British Values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy.

The four key British Values are:

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

Our schools use strategies within the national curriculum and beyond to secure such outcomes for students. The examples that follow show some of the many ways Christ Church (Church of England) Infant and Nursery School and Christ Church (Church of England) Junior School seek to instil British Values.

### Democracy

Through our curriculum children are taught about, and encouraged to respect, public institutions and services.

Daily discussions ensure that children are regularly asked for their opinions and feedback. This is also done through surveys and as part of school monitoring and evaluation systems (e.g. pupil interviews etc).

Teachers model and invite children to share in the democratic process and embed this through the curriculum and organisation of school life e.g. the children are able to vote for the class story, or their preferred choice for after school clubs.

All parents, carers and children are invited to share their views on school and community issues. This is done through questionnaires, surveys, PFA meetings and parent meetings. The principle of democracy is also explored in the History and Religious Education curriculum as well as in class time and Worship.

Christ Church (Church of England) Junior School have a school council from Y3 – Y6 which meets regularly to discuss issues raised in class council meetings. The council has its own budget and is able to effect change within the school. These changes range from lunchtime rules and games to the lunchtime menu. Every child on the school council is voted in by their class. School council members are rotated termly to ensure a wide range of children get the opportunity to contribute.

In Year 6 the children visited Parliament in the Autumn of 2023 to learn about the democratic process and were involved in a workshop debate.

At the Junior School the children are involved in elections for House Captains.

### **The rule of law**

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced at Christ Church (Church of England) Infant School and Nursery and Christ Church (Church of England) Junior School.

Pupils are taught the rules of the school upon entry. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and 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, Road Crossing Patrol and the Fire Service help reinforce this message.

Pupils are taught that rules are applied consistently to all and that we are all expected to follow the Christ Church (Church of England) Infant School and Nursery and Christ Church (Church of England) Junior School rules which are positive statements about the community we want our children to learn and thrive within.

The rule of **Ready, Responsible and Respectful** are taught and reinforced at every opportunity. Good examples of the rules in action are noted and rewarded through the Dojo Award System.

### **Individual liberty**

At Christ Church (Church of England) Infant School and Nursery and Christ Church (Church of England) Junior School, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As schools we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make informed choices, through a safe environment and an 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 PSHE work.

The children are encouraged and supported to be courageous advocates and are empowered to act on their views and to have a voice about matters that are important to them. The cultural capital provided through the education and wider curriculum offer provides the children with a wide and varied experiences that they can draw upon to inform their views, words, actions and decisions.

Christ Church (Church of England) Infant School and Nursery and Christ Church (Church of England) Junior School have robust zero-tolerance to bullying policies and any disputes, fall outs or upsets are taken seriously, dealt with swiftly and investigated fully. Rigorous behaviour and safety policies support our children to be independent and responsible.

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

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Children are taught that their behaviours effect their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect and dignity.

Mutual respect and tolerance is achieved through enhancing pupils understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity.

Across the Federation of schools, the children are encouraged to learn about and recognise significant religious events of themselves and their peers such as Divali, Eid, Ramadan. A prayer space is available in the Junior school for older children who specifically request the opportunity to complete prayer rituals during the school day.

We actively celebrate and encourage the sharing of diversity and want our children to value similarities and differences within our community. At Christ Church (Church of England) Infant School and Nursery and Christ Church (Church of England) Junior School we are lucky enough to have families from many different backgrounds and faiths. Due to this the children develop respect and understanding of the beliefs of others from a young age. This understanding is further developed through our RE curriculum where a different faith is taught each year as the children progress through the schools. At Christ Church, we recognise the similarities in key values between different faiths. We highlight these similarities to the children through our Collective Worship and we actively encourage visitors from a range of communities and organisations into school.

By the time children leave Christ Church, after having these values embedded through their school life, they will be valuable and fully rounded members of society who treat others with respect and tolerance, regardless of background. By embedding British Values in our daily school life we ensure that our young people understand the importance of respect and leave school fully prepared for life in modern Britain.

Christ Church (Church of England) Junior School has a strong link with a large primary school in Kenya. This link helps our children develop respect globally as well as in our local community. The in-depth understanding of the cultural difference in Kenya contributes to nurturing a growing sense of diversity that is necessary in the culturally rich Britain we live in. This partnership will be developed over time to include all phases of education within the Christ Church Schools.

Children are encouraged to regularly support charities and plan fundraising and awareness raising activities to support charities. The children have recently raised funds for local, national and international charities such as the Good Shepherd Ministry, Save the Children, The Children's Society and Comic Relief.