

British Values Statement

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 CE Junior School is committed to serving its community. It recognises the multi-cultural, multi-faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom. It also understands the vital role it has in ensuring that groups or individuals within the school are not subjected to intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to unduly, or illegally, influence them.

It follows 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 CE Junior School is dedicated to preparing students for their adult life beyond the formal, examined curriculum and ensuring that it promotes and reinforces British values to all its students.

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

The five key British Values are:

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

This school uses 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 CE Junior School seeks to instil British Values.

Democracy

We 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 lunchtimes 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 addition to the general school council, at Christ Church Junior we have additional committees whereby the children contribute to a specific area of school life. For example: Eco-committee, Fair Trade committee and a Worship Council.

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

Children are regularly asked for their opinions and feedback through daily discussions, school council meetings, online surveys and as part of school monitoring and evaluation systems (e.g pupil interviews etc).

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 Junior.

Pupils are taught the rules of the school upon entry (year 3). 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 and 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

Junior School Rules which are positive statements about the community we want our children to learn and thrive within.

Individual liberty

At Christ Church, 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 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 eSafety and PSHE work.

Christ Church Junior School has a robust zero-tolerance to bullying policy 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 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. By the time children leave Christ Church Junior, 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 Junior 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.

At Christ Church Junior 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 other 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 school.

At Christ Church Junior we recognise the similarities in key values between different faiths. We highlight these similarities to the children through our Collective Worship and have them displayed in the hall.

Christ Church Junior provides opportunities for the children to develop their understanding of significant cultural interest, places of worship and we actively encourage visitors from a range of communities and organisations into school.

Children are encouraged and regularly support charities and plan fundraising and awareness raising activities to support charities. The children have recently raised funds for Comic Relief and DEBRA.