



St Cecilia's  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

*'Therefore encourage one another, and build each other up.'*

# British Values

Date:	September 2023
Review:	September 2024



## 1.0 Introduction

At St Cecilia's Church of England School, we believe that it is our duty to 'actively 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. We promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of our pupils and through this demonstrate our commitment to fostering fundamental British values.

Through RE, PSHE, spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development, we can make real links between the values of our pupils and the lives of others in their community, country and the world in general. Through our curriculum we teach about democracy, civic responsibility, rules and laws, the monarchy, equality, values, environmental awareness and understanding of other faiths.

As a school we value and celebrate the diverse heritages of everybody at St Cecilia's. Alongside this, we value and celebrate being part of Britain. In general terms, this means that we celebrate traditions, such as customs over the year and we value and celebrate national events.

## 2.0 Aims

- To ensure that all develop an understanding of the values which underpin life in Britain.
- To teach pupils to have a mutual respect and tolerance for, and an understanding of the various faiths and beliefs represented in Britain today.
- To ensure that all learn to uphold the rule of law and support freedom, justice and equality.
- To help all understand and value the rich diversity that other citizens from different cultures, religions and backgrounds bring to our national society.
- To value people's differences and respect them including those of different sexual orientation, those with SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) and those of different religious, racial, or cultural backgrounds.
- To develop pupils' awareness and tolerance of communities different to their own.
- To value democracy and to stand up for right against wrong.

## 3.0 Definitions

<b>Value</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>Mutual Respect</b>	Develop an acceptance that other people having different faiths or beliefs (or none) should be accepted and tolerated and should not be subject to prejudice or discrimination. This same approach applies to protected characteristics which should be facilitated through age-appropriate discussion and debate.
<b>Tolerance</b>	
<b>Rule of Law</b>	Develop an appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individuals and is essential for their wellbeing and safety"
<b>Democracy</b>	Develop an understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process
<b>Individual Liberty</b>	Develop an understanding that the freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected by law

#### **4.0 Mutual Respect at St Cecilia's**

At St Cecilia's we teach the British Value of 'Mutual Respect' by:

- Helping the children acquire an understanding of and respect for people with regards to protected characteristics
- Helping pupils to acquire an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other cultures and ways of life
- Having high expectations about pupil conduct and this is reflected in our Behaviour Policy.
- Celebrating the fusion of cultures in the community
- Challenging and then learning from prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour
- Developing critical personal thinking skills
- Discussing differences between people, such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, and gender, protected characteristics and differences of family situations, such as young carers
- Challenging pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to the values we hold as a school, including 'extremist' views.
- Creating links with schools in our Trust and inviting staff, children, and families from different cultures to speak in school

#### **5.0 Tolerance at St Cecilia's**

At St Cecilia's we teach the British Value of 'Tolerance' by:

- Teaching children about difference and that having different beliefs and views is normal
- Teach children to be confident when express their own beliefs and views
- Encourage children to ask questions
- Having a high quality RE curriculum where children learn about religions, beliefs, places of worship and festivals
- Encourage children learn about their own and others culture including customs, traditions, dress and foods etc
- Ensuring our collective worship schedules includes opportunities to explore all faiths
- Inviting members of different faiths within the community in to school
- Exposing children to differences whether it be race, religion, belief or up bringing
- Providing opportunities to explore difference across the curriculum e.g. reading books

#### **6.0 Rule of Law at St Cecilia's**

At St Cecilia's we teach the British Value of 'Rule of Law' by:

- Teaching, through our PSHE scheme and SMSC offer, how to earn trust and respect and are supported to develop a strong sense of morality; knowing right from wrong and doing the right thing even when it is difficult.
- Implementing a clear set of school rules known as St Cecilia's Key Code which ensures that behaviour at the school is consistently of a high standard
- Ensuring school rules and expectations are clear and fair
- Pupils acting as ambassadors for the school when representing the school outside e.g. educational visits, sports tournaments
- Helping pupils to respect the law and the basis on which it is made
- Helping pupils to understand that living under the rule of law protects individuals and is essential for their well-being and safety
- Developing restorative justice approaches to resolve conflicts
- Arranging safety visits e.g. Fire safety, police, online safety, local PSCO
- The importance of rules/laws at every level - class, school, or the country, are consistently reinforced daily.

## **7.0 Democracy at St Cecilia's**

At St Cecilia's we teach the British Value of 'Democracy' by:

- Teaching the beginnings of democracy through historical research of the Ancient Greece Civilisation
- Teaching modern democracy through PSHE lessons and Collective Worship
- Supporting pupils to reflect upon their rights and responsibilities with our school values and rules
- Teaching pupils how they can influence decision-making through the democratic process
- Providing opportunities to learn about the electoral process by voting in elections for School Council and House Captains and holding mock elections at general election periods.
- Encouraging pupils to become involved in decision-making processes and ensure they are listened to in school
- Encouraging children to volunteer in school and represent the school in the wider community e.g. charity fundraisers
- Creating a class charter each year
- Holding class debates so pupils learn how to argue and defend points of view
- Encouraging pupils to express their views
- Holding 'Big Questions' assemblies that encourage discussion around current affairs
- Teaching pupils how public services operate and how they are held to account
- Modelling strategies on how to resolve perceived injustice

## **8.0 Individual Liberty at St Cecilia's**

At St Cecilia's we teach the British Value of 'Individual Liberty' by:

- Teaching children about personal responsibility, choices, and ambition through our PSHE and SMSC offers
- Encouraging children to follow their interests
- Actively encouraging children to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment
- Encouraging pupils to take responsibility for their behaviour, as well as knowing their rights
- Marking and feedback enables pupils to know their successes and what the next steps are for learning
- Supporting pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem, and self-confidence
- Modelling freedom of speech through pupil participation, while ensuring protection of vulnerable pupils and promoting critical analysis of evidence
- Challenging stereotypes
- Implementing of a strong anti-bullying culture
- Taking part in enrichment clubs