



### **Our Aims and Ethos**

Our vision as a Church of England primary school, deeply rooted in a strong Christian tradition, is to develop happy, young people with enquiring minds, a spirit of curiosity, respect for themselves, others and the environment so that they will have the skills, resilience and adaptability to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

We strive to provide the rich soil that enables our children and adults to develop the deep roots that they need to flourish in the love and grace of God. Within our community, our Christian school nurtures growth and supports all to have the courage to face challenge and the resilience to persevere even when confronted by difficulties. We endeavour to provide abundant opportunities which provide a platform for unique strengths and talents to blossom. Everyone feels valued and has respect for themselves and others, and hope for the brightest future.

Our mission, as a school with a religious character, is to provide an education of depth and quality in a Christian ethos which ensures the children and adults have the nurturing and aspirational environment to reach their full potential.

To realise our mission, we endeavour to live out our vision through our school motto:

*'Together we flourish'*

### **British Values**

At St Nicolas C of E Academy, we develop and promote British Values throughout our school and within our curriculum.

A key part of our plan for education is to ensure children become valuable and fully rounded members of society who treat others with respect and leave school fully prepared for life in modern Britain.

The Government emphasises that schools are required to ensure that key 'British Values' are taught in all UK schools. The government set out its definition of British values in the 'Prevent Strategy'

### **British Values**

- The Rule of Law
- Democracy
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs

To do this our children will develop;

- An understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process.
- An understanding that the freedom to hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law.
- An acceptance that people having different faiths and beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated, and should not be the cause of discriminatory behaviour.
- An understanding of the importance of identifying and combating discrimination.
- The mission statement and aims and ethos of the school clearly reflect these values, and the whole school strives to uphold them.



## Promoting British Values at St Nicolas C of E Academy



The table below is an indication of where we can find evidence to show that British Values are an intrinsic part of school life at St Nicolas C of E Academy.

<b>British Value</b>	<b>Evidence</b>
<b>Democracy</b>	<p>Children have many opportunities for their voices to be heard at St Nicolas Academy. Democracy is central to how we operate and is abundant within the school.</p> <p>Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council, Eco-Team and through Pupil questionnaires.</p> <p>The election of the School Council members reflects our British electoral system and demonstrates democracy in action. Candidates deliver presentations and pupils vote after careful consideration of characteristics important for an elected representative.</p> <p>Made up of 2 representatives from each class in Key Stage 2, the School Council meets regularly to discuss issues raised by our pupils and is able to effect change within the school, e.g. our School Council played a pivotal role in the school's decision to invest in the installation of our trim trail. They also met with our local MP to discuss local issues and what they could do to help.</p> <p>The School Council are actively involved in providing teachers with feedback.</p> <p>We are a Rights Respecting School providing a community where children's rights are learned, taught, practised, respected, protected and promoted.</p> <p>We ensure that links to the rights are made in all areas of the curriculum.</p> <p>Our Rights Respecting School Ambassadors play an active role in raising awareness of and championing children's rights, e.g. organising a non-uniform day to raise money for the children in Ukraine; writing to our local MP to ask him to highlight the importance of World Children's Day and children's rights in parliament.</p> <p>We encourage pupils to take ownership of not only their school but also of their own learning and progress. They regularly respond and reflect on the teaching and learning they receive which encourages a heightened sense of both personal and social responsibility and is demonstrated on a daily basis by our pupils.</p> <p>Pupils are always listened to by adults and are taught to listen carefully and with concern for each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard.</p> <p>In association with VotesforSchools, weekly resources are available for teachers to prompt impartial discussion on a challenging current issue. Students vote and comment and we ensure that their voices are heard.</p>
<b>The Rule of Law</b>	<p>The importance of rules and laws, whether they be those that govern our school or our country, are consistently reinforced throughout the school day, through school and class assemblies, as well as when dealing with and reflecting on behaviour choices'</p> <p>Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws so that they understand how they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves, and the consequences when laws are broken.</p> <p>Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service etc. are a regular part of our calendar and help reinforce this message.</p> <p>Our pupils have the opportunity to participate in 'Bikeability' which is the Government's national cycle training programme that supports their understanding of the rules of the road and potential dangers should they break those rules.</p>

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<p><b>Individual Liberty</b></p>	<p>Through the provision of a safe and supportive environment within school, we provide boundaries for our pupils to make choices safely.</p> <p>Our pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are taught how to exercise these safely, e.g. through our E-Safety, RRSa and PSHE lessons.</p> <p>Staff use the restorative practices of the Thrive Approach which helps us to support the emotional health and well-being of all our children.</p> <p>Our PSHE curriculum is supported by our Jigsaw lessons. Jigsaw is a resource used across the whole school that sets the ground rules for mutual respect and the listening to, and acceptance of, the contributions of the whole class.</p> <p>Through opportunities such as our extra-curricular and lunch time clubs, trips and residential trips, pupils are given the freedom to make safe choices</p> <p>We support our children to manage and understand their emotions so that they will be motivated and equipped to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be effective and successful learners;</li> <li>• make and sustain friendships;</li> <li>• deal with and resolve conflict evenly and fairly;</li> <li>• solve problems with others by themselves;</li> <li>• manage strong feelings such as frustration, anger or anxiety;</li> <li>• be able to promote calm and optimistic states that promote the achievement of goals;</li> <li>• recover from setbacks and persist in the face of difficulties;</li> <li>• work and play co-operatively;</li> <li>• compete fairly and win or lose with dignity and respect for all competitors;</li> <li>• recognise and stand up for their rights and the rights of others;</li> <li>• understand the value of the differences and commonalities between people, respecting the rights of others to have beliefs and values different to their own;</li> <li>• to respect and value our world, and the things, both material and alive, that exist within it.</li> </ul> <p>Collective worship is used to both explore and support the school's values.</p> <p>Children in Year 5 and 6 are given key roles and responsibilities such as Play Leaders, Playground Buddies, Rights Respecting School Ambassadors and Prefects.</p>
<p><b>Mutual Respect</b></p>	<p>We have high expectations of achievement and behaviour. Children and staff are polite and kind. We believe everyone has their own special gifts and we are expected to use them.</p> <p>We listen and respect each other. We teach the children that conflict will be dealt with calmly and fairly. All members of the school family are valued equally. We celebrate 'wonderful walking' and 'marvellous manners' and take care of our school environment through our Eco Leaders.</p> <p>We celebrate each other's achievements, whether that be in or out of school, through our weekly 'Outstanding Achievement' assembly.</p> <p>Teachers plan exciting, interesting, challenging and innovative lessons where everyone is expected to do their best and respect others.</p> <p>Staff use the restorative practices of the Thrive Approach which helps us to support the emotional health and well-being of all our children.</p> <p>Our KS2 children are given key roles and responsibilities to work alongside younger children in order to support the promotion of mutual respect across the age phases, e.g. our School Prefects and Playground Buddies.</p>



British Value	Evidence
<p><b>Tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs</b></p>	<p>We are proud to promote and celebrate our different backgrounds and beliefs. Tolerance, politeness and mutual respect are at the heart of our aims, ethos and R.E curriculum.</p> <p>Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE.</p> <p>Our central aim to 'Prepare children to be change makers of the future' drives us towards ensuring that our pupils are able to live and work alongside people from all backgrounds and cultures.</p> <p>Our pupils know and understand our expectation for respect to be shown to everyone and to everything, whatever differences we may have.</p> <p>Children learn that their behaviour choices have an effect on their own rights and those of others.</p> <p>All members of the school community are encouraged to treat each other with respect.</p>

**Further evidence for all British Values can be found in the following:**

- School Aims and Ethos
- School Rule 'Respect'
- School Christian Values
- Behaviour Policy
- P.S.H.E Policy
- School Personal Development Plan
- Curriculum Links
- P.S.H.E. Floorbooks