

Promoting British Values Statement

St Stephen's Tockholes CE Primary School 2015



The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy and these values were reiterated by the Prime Minister this year. The Department for Education state that there is a need...

"to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to 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."

At Stephen's Tockholes we are committed to upholding these values alongside our Christian core values of love, peace, forgiveness and fellowship. We ensure that they are reinforced regularly through teaching and learning which has a clear focus on enabling all children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. We are aware Inspectors will assess and verify the breadth and balance of the school's curriculum and whether it is likely to promote preparation for, and an appreciation of life in modern Britain.

OFSTED said *'The school's work to enhance pupil's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is good... Pupils often organise fundraising events for causes important to them. These events are initiated and run by the pupils themselves. (December 2014)*

Modern Britain

St. Stephen's Tockholes is committed to serving its local, national and international community. We recognise the multi-cultural, multi faith and ever-changing landscape of the United Kingdom. As a Church school, we actively promote virtues, ethics and the 'Values for Life' which shape our children's character and moral perspective, through the teachings of the Church and within our worship. We encourage children and staff to witness these values in their everyday lives. The teachers' standards expect teachers to uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school. This includes not undermining fundamental British values. We are confident that our continued focus on the Gospel will give our children the necessary awareness of what it means to be a good citizen in Britain today and embed in them the building blocks of a future successful and productive life. We teach about democracy, civic responsibility, rules and laws, the monarchy, equality, values and virtues through 'Values for Life', the national curriculum including PHSE, environmental awareness and the

Promoting British Values Statement

St Stephen's Tockholes CE Primary School 2015

understanding of other faiths. The Staff and Governors use every opportunity to promote the rich ethos of our school and seek to serve all so that all feel a sense of belonging and welcome.

Democracy

Respect for democracy, democratic participation and active involvement of all pupils is evident across the school. We aim to provide pupils with a broad general knowledge of and promote respect for public institutions and services. Our aim is to teach pupils how they can influence decision making through the democratic process. Consequently we strive to provide children, parents and staff with many opportunities for their voices to be heard in school. We have an active school council whose members are chosen / elected by the children. The school councillors work alongside a linked staff member and the Headteacher to enable them to influence and make decisions in matter which affect their lives within the school. This reflects our British electoral system and demonstrates democracy in action.

SIAMS inspection report '*Independent and co-cooperative group work is fostered and all children, represented well by the school council, have a significant say in key areas of school policy*'. (2011)

In Early Years as part of the focus on self confidence and self awareness as cited in Personal, Social and Emotional Development staff encourage children to see their role in the bigger picture, encouraging children to know their views count, value each other's views and values and talk about their feelings, for example when they do and do not need help. Democracy in action is demonstrated through adult and child inspired topic selections and all children's ideas are actively sought through 'floorbook' sessions where activities and opportunities to develop enquiring minds are promoted.

Our school behaviour policy involves rewards and sanctions which the pupils vote on and so can facilitate understanding of wider issues within the context of learning about the values on which our society is founded and our system of democratic government. Children work together to agree school golden rules and the rights associated with these. They are listened to and taught to listen carefully and with concern to each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinion and voices heard. Through our behaviour policy we model how perceived injustice can be peacefully challenged e.g. by teaching about inspirational figures such as Mandela, Mother Teresa and Martin Luther King. We also encourage regular visits and input to the curriculum from the fire and police services.

Rules and Law

OFSTED said '*Pupils attitudes to learning in all year groups and with different members of staff are positive. Pupils conduct themselves well in class, thanks to well established routines. Around the school, pupils also conduct themselves well and there are positive relationships between the pupils and adults.*'

Promoting British Values Statement

St Stephen's Tockholes CE Primary School 2015

The importance of rules and laws, whether they be those that govern our class, school or our country, are referred to and consistently reinforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through Collective worship. Pupils are taught to have respect for the basis on which the law is made and how the law is applied in England. We aim to teach children the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect all of us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. 'Values for Life' are a basis for how we should live our lives and we use the example of Christ when dealing with behaviour that is not acceptable. In addition to this, planned visits from the police and fire service, appreciation of rules in sport are regular parts of our school calendar and help reinforce this message. We promote outstanding behaviour and this is sustained through our behaviour policy which is based on Jesus' teachings, thus ensuring that school rules and expectations are clear and fair and all our pupils understand that rules are there to protect us just as living under the rule of law protects all individuals in society.

Individual Liberty

We actively promote and model individual liberty by supporting children to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence eg. through our Christian ethos, our way of treating people, by investing heavily in meeting the needs of all of the children, by providing equality of opportunity, by knowing and understanding the needs of all of the children. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and how to exercise those safely, for example through E Safety, Life Education lessons and menu choices. Within school children are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. We reassure children to take responsibility for their behaviour as well as knowing their rights eg. through linking rights with responsibilities, by having a fair and consistent approach to the behaviour policy. Whether it is promoted through choice of challenge, how they record or by individual participation in our extra-curricular activities, children are given the freedom to make choices. We welcome freedom of speech through pupil participation, while ensuring protection of vulnerable pupils and challenging stereotyping of others. We implement and actively promote a strong anti bullying culture and invite visitors into school to support our anti bullying policy.

OFSTED said' Pupils enjoy the rewards they receive...They feel it is a fair system that provides regular opportunities to receive rewards and to celebrate their achievements. They like that rewards can be awarded in all aspects of school life, including trips.'

Mutual Respect: (see Behaviour policy)

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy revolves around our core values such as Love, Respect, Tolerance and Forgiveness. Pupils are expected to show mutual respect towards

Promoting British Values Statement

St Stephen's Tockholes CE Primary School 2015

everything and everyone, regardless of individual differences at all times. This is achieved through enhancing children's understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. We actively promote and model respect and tolerance by promoting respect for individual differences through Collective Worship, the RE curriculum, multicultural, multi-faith weeks and activities and through our ethos. All children, adults and visitors are expected to behave respectfully and we will challenge anybody who displays prejudicial or discriminatory behaviours, Pupils take part in worship and class discussions related to what this means and how it is shown. For our early years children, much of our curriculum is aimed at developing personal and social skills which enhance their learning, including knowing about similarities and differences between themselves and others and among families.

SIAMS inspection report 'Many Charities are supported both locally and further afield. World-wide community links are strong in Egypt and Rwanda, where personal contacts have provided opportunities to help disabled youngsters and an orphan respectively. These aspects of school life deepen the children's moral, spiritual, social and cultural development' (2011)

Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

We will help pupils to acquire an understanding of and respect for their own and other cultures and ways of life. This is achieved through enhancing pupils understanding through the curriculum, of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving pupils opportunities to experience such diversity. Worship, Assemblies and discussions involving identifying and combating discrimination, prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PHSCE. We organise visits to places of worship, openly discuss and celebrate the differences between people such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, gender and different family situations. We encourage our children to participate in a wide range of events and provide opportunities for pupils to serve the wider community in order to nurture tolerance and harmony, understanding and respect between all members of our society.

Actions Going Forward

- 1. To enhance links with different Faith Centres.***
- 2. To develop Collective Worship to reflect Christian and British Values.***
- 3. To increase understanding of what "British Values" means amongst staff and children in the context of "Modern Britain".***

Promoting British Values Statement

St Stephen's Tockholes CE Primary School 2015

References

DfE September 2004 – School Inspection handbook: *Handbook for inspecting schools in England under section 5 of the education Act 2005* (as amended by the Education Act 2100) no 120101 Crown Copyright 2014

HM Government home office 07.06.2011 Policy paper: Prevent Strategy 2011 Ref: ISBN 9780101809221 Crown Copyright.

Rowe, D (2001) A brief Guide – Democracy in Schools and the Local Community.

OFSTED Inspection report: St Stephen's Tockholes Cof E Primary School 4-5 December 2014

SIAMS National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools report 2011