



## Promoting British Values

In 2013 the Department for Education said, “Keeping our children safe and ensuring schools prepare them for life in modern Britain could not be more important. This change is an important step towards ensuring we have a strong legal basis for intervening in those schools where this is an issue. The vast majority of schools already promote British values. This is about making sure we have the tools we need to intervene if children are being let down. Schools are required to actively promote and not undermine British Values.”

The government first set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy and this definition has been used in the Independent School Standards since January 2013. The values are:

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

Schools also have a “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. This duty is known as the Prevent duty and was published in July 2015. In order for schools and childcare providers to fulfil the Prevent duty, it is essential that staff are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, and know what to do when they are identified. Schools and childcare providers can build pupils’ resilience to radicalisation by promoting fundamental British values and enabling them to challenge extremist views. It is important to emphasise that the Prevent duty is not intended to stop pupils debating controversial issues.

At Bury Catholic Preparatory School we are committed to serving our school community and the surrounding area. We recognise the multi-cultural, multi faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom, and therefore those it serves.

As a Catholic School we actively promote values that shape our pupil’s character and moral perspective, through the teachings of the Church. We are confident that our continued focus on the Gospel Values will give our pupils 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.

Through RE, PSHEE, SEAL and the Creative Curriculum we are able to make real links between the values of our pupils and the lives of others in their community, country and the world in general. The list below outlines examples of when and where such British Values are shared. The list is not exhaustive, and represents only some of what we do.



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### Democracy

Democracy is rife within the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our Pupil Council, Eco Council and Pupil questionnaires. Our School Council meets regularly to discuss issues raised and they shared these with the SLT. The elections of our School and Eco Councils, as well as Citizen of the Year, are based solely on pupil votes. Each year the children decide on a class charter and the rights associated with these. Pupils in Year 5 learn about their local community and the local council, and find out about how local democracy works and how they can contribute. Last year our pupils devised their own political party, decided on a manifesto and produced a campaign speech with posters and leaflets. They held an election at the end of the project.

### The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. Pupils are taught from an early age about the rules of our school. This is our School Code of Conduct, Playground Rules and PE Code of Conduct. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Pupils in Year 3 pupils learn about rules and how laws are made in a democracy. They develop their appreciation of why we need rules to protect rights and how they help us at home, at school, and in our wider community. They find out about the work of Parliament and MPs in creating and changing laws. Increased links with the local police, fire service, a solicitor and faith leaders, together with visits to the Mayor's Parlor and museums, are enabling pupils to learn about the rule of law, democracy, and public institutions and services in England.

### Individual Liberty

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make their own choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school, we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make independent decisions. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advise how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSHEE lessons. Whether it be through choice of challenge, of how they record, of participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

### Mutual Respect

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy has revolved around Core Values such as 'Respect', and pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies related to



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what this means and how it is shown. Posters around the school promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our behaviour policy. In PE and Sports Day we promote the concept of 'fair play', following and developing rules, inclusion, celebrating and rewarding success, being noble in defeat and participation in activities that promote understanding and affiliation with others.

### Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

This is achieved through enhancing pupils understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHEE. During our 'World Religions Week' members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. Open discussions during World Religions Week helps our pupils to learn tolerance and to respect the diversity found in modern Britain.