



British Values Policy

Encourage, Guide, Support, Celebrate



Date Approved: Autumn 2024

Review Date: Autumn 2026

Person Responsible: Joanne McCormack

Aughton St. Michael's CE School will ensure that it actively promotes the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. This includes alerting children to the threat of extremism.

These values are officially taught through the Religious Education (RE) and Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum and are further nurtured through the school's ethos and promotion of spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) understanding.

1. Legal framework

This policy will have consideration for the following guidance:

- Ofsted, School Inspection Handbook, 2015.
- DfE, Promoting Fundamental British Values as part of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) in school, 2014

This policy is carried out in conjunction with our following other policies:

- Good Behaviour Policy
- Community Cohesion Policy
- R.E. Policy
- PSHE Policy
- SMSC Policy

2. Roles and responsibilities

Aughton St Michael's CE School understands the importance of promoting British values through a comprehensive and unprejudiced curriculum.

The Headteacher will ensure that all teachers and staff are aware of the requirement to uphold British values through the methods outlined in this policy, and will ensure that the appropriate procedures are in place to carry out these methods.

Teachers and support staff will ensure that their lessons are inclusive of, and sensitive to, the fundamental British values.

Pupils are expected to treat each other and staff with respect, in line with the school's Good Behaviour Policy.

3. Democracy

At our school pupils have numerous opportunities to have their views heard through pupil questionnaires and the pupil-elected school council. The school council meets regularly to discuss issues raised within school. The council has its own budget and is able to affect change within school. The council members are made up of children from Year 1 to Year 6, (Year 1 to 4 having 2 class representatives and Y5 and Y6 having 4 class representatives). Members are elected annually and voted in after canvassing.

Our pupils are encouraged to have an input into what and how they learn to instil an understanding of democracy for their future.

Children have many opportunities to voice and express their opinions.

4. The rule of law

Our school has a high regard for the laws that govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Our pupils are involved in the creation of school rules to help develop this understanding.

At our school pupils are taught these values and the reasons behind laws, whether they govern the class, the school or the country, that are essential for their wellbeing and safety. Pupils are allowed healthy debate in class on the matter to encourage recognition of the importance of the law.

Our school organises visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service, throughout the academic year in an effort to reinforce the reality and importance of this message.

5. Individual liberty

At our school we foster a safe and supportive environment where pupils are actively encouraged to make choices. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for pupils to make choices safely through the provision of a safe learning environment. Whether it is choosing a challenging task or an extra-curricular club, pupils have the freedom to base their choices on their interests.

Pupils are taught about their rights and personal freedoms and are encouraged and advised on how to exercise these safely, for instance through our teaching on e-safety and PSHE lessons.

6. Mutual respect

Respect is one of our school's key values. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. 'Respect everyone and their opinions' is one of our Code of Conduct rules and all members of our school community are encouraged to treat others with respect.

Treating others with respect is reinforced through our Good Behaviour Policy.

7. Respect of those of different faiths and beliefs

Our school acknowledges that respect is achieved through pupils' knowledge and understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and the opportunity for pupils to experience such diversity.

Throughout the year, Worship focuses bullying, with reference to prejudice-based bullying, and discussion is encouraged.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs is supported by the RE and PSHE curriculum. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school.

We encourage pupils from different faiths or religions to share their knowledge with their peers to enhance their learning.

Pupils are encouraged to become aware of the dangers resulting from lack of tolerance, which can lead to extremist behaviour.

8. Review

This policy will be kept under regular review by the SMSC Subject Leader and Headteacher and amended as appropriate to reflect any changes to regulations or improvements required to ensure its continued effectiveness.