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**Promoting British Values at St Thomas CE VC Primary School**

The DfE have recently reinforced the 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.” The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy and these values have been reiterated by the Prime Minister this year. At St Thomas CE VC Primary School these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

**Democracy:**

Democracy is richly embedded within the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council, comment slips, pupil questionnaires, meeting with the Head teacher and through being either a Head boy, head girl or a prefect. Our school behaviour and values policies involve rewards and sanctions; this is shared through all aspects of school life and also shared with parents, carers and children from EYFS to Year 6.

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 collective worship time. 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. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service are a regular part of our calendar events and help reinforce this message. Children are made very aware, through our behaviour policy, that their choices determine outcomes.

Individual Liberty:

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for all pupils to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and an empowering approach through the curriculum. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSHCE lessons. Pupils are further empowered through being part of a School Council and being able to take in feedback about their learning across the curriculum which link directly to the senior leadership team or governors. Pupils are given the freedom to make a wide range of choices from attending extra-curricular clubs to supporting fund raising events.

Mutual Respect:

As a very multicultural, multi lingual and multi faith school, mutual respect is a key element of our school day. We have a half-termly ‘Wonderword’(Belong, Hope, Aspire, Believe, Love, Thank you) which we promote through Collective Worship, Quiet Reflection and PHSCE. These themes not only support mutual respect but promote greatly our British Values agenda. Respect also features within our Behaviour Policy . Adults throughout the school model, demonstrate and promote respect for others as do older children who have suitable, age related, tasks and responsibilities and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our behaviour.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

At St Thomas CE VC Primary School we are culturally rich and diverse, where children have unique opportunities to learn from each other by sharing and celebrating their different faiths and cultures. Collective worship and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed up and supported by learning in RE and PSHCE. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. We integrate the Kirklees Agreed Syllabus for RE within our vibrant curriculum, which alongside PHSCE, develops tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

Implementing British Values

We display the hand symbol in every classroom to ensure the promotion of British Values remains at the forefront of daily life in school.



Within each half term topic throughout school, real opportunities for promoting British Values are integrated and identified on each half termly topic sheet by the hand symbol.

Staff have all received up to date training in PREVENT. The DSL and deputies and received more in depth training.

All elements of this ‘Promoting British Values’ statement are replicated in our Behaviour and Attitudes Policy and our Safeguarding Policy.