

# Holy Ghost Catholic Primary School



## Catholic Values and 'British Values' 2021

Policy details	
<i>Policy review</i>	Spring 2021
<i>Next review date</i>	Spring 2023
<i>Signature</i>	
<i>Date</i>	

"A child who is helped by another child is like a strong city"

*Holy Ghost Catholic Primary School is a Catholic school which seeks to live out the values of Jesus Christ. We promote these values by our words and deeds, and Catholic doctrine and practice therefore permeates every aspect of the school's activity. We provide a Catholic curriculum, which is broad and balanced, recognising that every pupil is unique and is created in the image of God (Gen 1:27). Our curriculum is designed to enable every pupil to discern their vocation and to be well equipped to follow it as active citizens in service to the world. Catholic Religious Education is the 'core of the core curriculum' (Pope St John Paul II) and the foundation of the entire educational process. We also provide a wide range of extracurricular activities and strong pastoral support. We incorporate democratic principles, value the rule of law, support individual liberty and foster a community in which different faiths and beliefs are respected.*

### **How Holy Ghost Primary School promotes British values within our work to promote Catholic values.**

In guidance for maintained schools, issued by the Department of Education in November 2014, a list was provided that describes the understanding and knowledge expected of pupils as a result of schools promoting fundamental British values. This is given below:

- an understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process;
- an appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their wellbeing and safety;
- an understanding that there is a separation of power between the executive and the judiciary, and that while some public bodies such as the police and the army can be held to account through Parliament, others such as the courts maintain independence;
- an understanding that the freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law;
- an acceptance that other people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated, and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour; and
- an understanding of the importance of identifying and combating discrimination.

The Department for Education has also provided the following examples of the actions schools could take to promote British values:

- include in suitable parts of the curriculum – as appropriate for the age of pupils – material on the strengths, advantages and disadvantages of democracy, and how democracy and the law works in Britain, in contrast to other forms of government in other countries;
- ensure all pupils within the school have a voice that is listened to, and demonstrate how democracy works by actively promoting democratic processes such as a school council whose members are voted for by the pupils;

- use opportunities such as general or local elections to hold mock elections to promote fundamental British values and provide pupils with the opportunity to learn how to argue and defend points of view; and
- consider the role of extra-curricular activity, including any run directly by pupils, in promoting fundamental British values.

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**At Holy Ghost we promote an understanding of democracy in the following ways:**

#### **Democracy**

- Having a school council
- Taking part in debating competitions (internally or with other schools).
- Highlighting the development of democratic ideas in history lessons.
- Allowing pupils to vote for Head Boy/ Head Girl/ House or Sports captains.
- Ensuring all pupils are listened to by adults.
- Inviting MPs and other speakers to the school.
- Visiting parliaments, assemblies and local councils.
- Holding mock elections.

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**At Holy Ghost children begin to understand the rule or law in the following ways:**

- Classes creating 'class rules'.
- Having a clear behaviour policy that is explained to all.
- Organising visits from the police service to reinforce the message of right and wrong.
- Highlighting the rules of the Church and God in the RE curriculum, for example the Ten Commandments and the precepts of the Church.
- Teaching about the development of the Rule of Law in English Law, a legal system created uniquely in a Catholic England, inspired by Christian values and becoming a major influence across the world.

**At Holy Ghost we teach about Individual Liberty**

- Encouraging children to be independent in their learning.
- Providing children with opportunities for reflection as they take responsibility for discerning their vocation.

**At Holy Ghost we instil mutual respect by:**

- Having a mission statement that is inclusive.
- Constantly promoting respect for others as good manners.
- Reinforcing the values of everyone's opinions in class debates.
- Having an effective behaviour management and anti-bullying policy.
- Emphasising in RE and PSCHE lessons that every person is unique and 'created in the image of God'.
- Having active educational links with other schools.
- Supporting charitable works.

**At Holy Ghost we engage children in an understanding and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs by:**

- Highlighting how Religious Education provides pupils with a deep understanding of their own faith as well as awareness of the faith and traditions of other religious communities - as a basis for understanding and respecting them.
- Show how Jesus encouraged tolerance in stories such as "The Good Samaritan" and "The Women at the Well".

**Teaching **British Values** in a Catholic School through the provision of **SMSC****  
 using  
*The Way, the Truth & the Life Series*  
 and  
*Teaching Other Faiths in a Catholic School* CD ROM

BRITISH VALUE	BOOK/CD ROM	EXAMPLES
Enable students to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence	Book 3 pp 4-10 Book 5 pp 14-16 Book 5 pp 106-107 Book 6 pp 81-83	Belonging to a family and also the family of the Church Our responsibility as stewards of the Earth: God's personal gifts to us Enabling Catholic students to know and understand what they believe about their Catholic faith Becoming aware of our God-given gifts and <b>reflecting on how we can use them to help others</b>
Enable students to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England	Book 3 pp 38-53 Book 4 pp 50-57 Book 5 pp 34-36 Book 5 pp 40-41 Book 5 pp 73-76	The great Commandment The teaching of Jesus The Ten Commandments The New Commandment <b>What is sin &amp; reflecting on the consequences</b>
Enable students to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school <b>and to society more widely</b>	Book 5 pp 66-67 Book 5 pp 73-76 Book 6 pp 12-14; 18-28	Actions & consequences Being responsible for our behaviour Using our gifts to help others Know that we are called to work for justice and <b>speak out against injustice</b>
Enable students to acquire a broad general knowledge of <b>and respect for public institutions and services in</b>	Book 4 pp 100-105	The mission of the Church

England	Book 5 pp 81-83 Book 6 pp 89-91	Forgiveness takes courage Many ways to serve others
Further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling students to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures	Book 3 pp 90-96 Book 5 pp 45-61 Book 6 pp 19-21 Book 6 pp 90-91	Being a Christian and loving one's neighbour To be a Disciple of Jesus & living the Beatitudes Striving for justice: the Himalayan villagers & refugees; Oscar Romero; Martin Luther King; Vivo Rio, long live our city Example of Annalena Tonelli in Africa and Sr Joan O'Callaghan in El Salvador, Peru
Encourage respect for other people	Book 3 pp 38-53 Book 4 pp 50-57 Book 4 pp 88-89 Book 6 pp 55-57	The great Commandment The teaching of Jesus The teaching of the Apostles Jesus washes the disciples feet - an example of thinking of the needs of others before our own
Using a wide variety of sources to help pupils understand a range of faiths	CD ROM Other Faiths Book 5 pp 104-105	Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism & Buddhism What the Catholic Church teaches about other faiths
Accepting that people have different faiths or beliefs to oneself & that this should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour	CD ROM Other Faiths & Book 5 pp 104-123	Examples of people of other faiths and that the goodness in the minds and hearts of these people is deeply respected by the Church Knowing that God's Holy Spirit has been at work in all religious traditions
Understanding that the freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law	CD ROM Other Faiths & Book 5 pp 104-123	The gift of God's grace is absolutely free and available to everyone