

## British Values at Weston-on-Trent C of E Primary School

At Weston-on-Trent Church of England (VA) Primary School we uphold, and teach pupils about, British Values which are defined as:

- democracy
- rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect
- tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

These values are taught explicitly through Personal, Social, Health and Emotional (PSHE), and Religious Education (RE). We also teach British Values by planning and delivering a broad and balanced curriculum with each topic linked to a 'big' ethical question. Our daily expectations for behaviour reflect what is valued in school and we seek to create a respectful and caring community.

The school's vision 'Let Your Light Shine' which is at the centre of our planning and decision making, enshrines the British Values of individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

As a church school, our values are entirely compatible with British values and they often link together. During our daily act of worship, we celebrate and explore key messages and how to live 'life in all its fullness'. In accordance with the Church of England Vision for Education, we seek to educate the children for:

- wisdom, knowledge and skills
- hope and aspiration
- community and living well together
- dignity and respect.

We have achieved the following external accreditations, which demonstrate evidence of our commitment to British Values:

- Ofsted grade of 'Good' (May 2018)
- School Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) grade of 'Outstanding' (May 2016). *The school takes opportunities to actively promote British Values through daily collective worship and whole school systems and structures such as electing and running a successful School Council Team.*

We also actively promote British values by ensuring our curriculum planning and delivery includes opportunities for the exploration of these expectations.

At Weston-on-Trent C of E Primary School, these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

### **Democracy:**

Democracy is an important value at our school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our Be The Change Team. Weston-on-Trent's Collective Worship is planned around Christian Values and each half term we have a new focus, e.g. courage, responsibility. We hold regular surveys to capture the pupil voice.

We teach the children about how the country is governed and encourage them to be active citizens.

### **The Rule of Law:**

The importance of laws and rules, whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days. Our system for behaviour is aligned to an agreed code (the Golden Rules) and if children are given verbal warnings this is always set against the agreed school behaviour code. Children are asked to identify which aspect of the code they have broken to ensure that this connection is made and understood. 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, fire services etc. are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message.

To encourage and promote good behaviour, attitude and work, we have devised a reward system, which is followed consistently throughout the school. We are committed to praising children's efforts. We endeavour to praise the children informally, individually, during group work, in front of the whole class and the whole school. Children are rewarded not only for achievement in curriculum areas, but also for good choices and appropriate behaviour. Rewards are given in the form of stickers, golden tokens and certificates. Children's achievements are also recognised during Celebration Assemblies.

### **Individual Liberty:**

Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices at our school, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school, we provide boundaries for our children to make choices safely, through the provision of a secure environment and a carefully planned 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 teaching. Pupils are given the freedom to make choices, e.g. signing up for extracurricular clubs.

### **Mutual Respect:**

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy is based around core Christian values such as 'respect' and 'responsibility' and these values determine how we live as a community at Weston-on-Trent C of E Primary School. The acronym STAR is used daily and the letter 'r' signifies respect: this means that respect and respectful behaviour are a daily expectation and are celebrated in school. Collective Worship is based on 'Christian Values for Life', which are central to how we expect everyone to go about their life at our school.

### **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. Collective Worship and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE. We use opportunities such as the Olympics and World Cup to study and learn about life and culture in countries such as Brazil. We invite guest speakers in order to give the children a range of positive role models and run workshops to give the children a real experience of a different belief system.