

# Promoting British Values at St Joseph's

At St Joseph's school we aim to instill the British values outlined by our Government in all our pupils, so that they all understand what the people of our society see as being important and what we feel is right and wrong.

At St Joseph's, we actively promote a culture of mutual respect and tolerance, democracy, the rule of law and individual liberty. British values permeate throughout the school curriculum and support the development of the whole child.

## **Democracy**

Each year the children decide upon their class rules. All the children contribute to the drawing up of the rules. We have a school council which meets regularly with Mrs Lee to discuss issues raised in class council meetings. The council is genuinely able to effect change within the school including lunchtime zones, rewards etc. Every child on the student council is voted in by their class.

The pupils annually complete a questionnaire where they are able to put forward their views about the school.

St Joseph's also play a massive role in supporting charities, not only choosing the activities that they do to raise money, but also making decisions regarding where the money that has been raised goes. Over the past few years, pupils have supported those involved in the earthquake in Nepal, our local communities who were flooded and CAFOD

## **The Rule of Law**

The importance of laws, whether they be, those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced at St Joseph's. Pupils are taught from an early age the rules of the school.

Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and 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 help reinforce this message.

## **Individual Liberty**

At St Joseph's 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 young pupils to make informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our eSafety and PSHE lessons. They also understand that with rights come responsibilities.

## **Mutual Respect for and Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs**

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Children learn that their behaviour has an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of our school community treat each other with respect.

Religious Education lessons and PSHE lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others including those with different religious beliefs. We actively promote diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures. This year we have an RE week planned to learn about other religions including Judaism, Hinduism and Sikhism.