



## British Values Statement

The Department for Education states that there is a 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 Department for Education defines British Values as follows:*

- Respect for democracy and support or participation in the democratic process
- Respect for the basis on which the law is made and applies in England
- Support for equality of opportunity for all
- Support and respect for the liberties of all within the law
- Respect for and tolerance of different faiths and religious and other beliefs

St Edward's is a Catholic school which seeks to live out the values of Jesus Christ and sees the promotion of 'British values' as central to Catholic education. At St Edward's we recognise the importance of helping children to grow and develop academically, spiritually, morally, socially and culturally. We take very seriously our responsibility to prepare children for life in modern Britain and our school reflects British values in all that we do so that we can enable our children to contribute to the Common Good of all. We promote these values through our words and deeds; Catholic doctrine and practice and British Values permeate through every aspect of our school's activities.

We teach the importance of British Values constantly by exploring and explaining what it means to live a good life, within a framework of Catholic Christian Values. We help the children to understand *British* values are important by drawing upon the example of Jesus and his acceptance, love and inclusion of all.

Our mission statement encompasses what we believe about the importance of serving others by showing compassion and respect for all and embracing and celebrating everyone's differences.

We encourage our children to be creative, unique, open-minded and independent individuals, respectful of themselves and of others in our school, our local community and the wider world.

The school makes considerable efforts to ensure children have exposure to a wide experience beyond their local community through sporting events, communication with children in other schools and other countries, participating in a range of visits and the use of outdoor education centres. Their understanding, rooted in Gospel Values, gives the children a firm foundation for embracing difference. We aim to nurture our children on their journey through life so they can grow into safe, caring, democratic, responsible, tolerant and spiritual adults who make a positive difference to British Society and to the world.