



## ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE BRITISH VALUES

'The College's Catholic ethos underpins everything that it does. Students also learn about other beliefs and are strongly encouraged to show respect for the diversity of the local community and others...the curriculum strongly promotes students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development'  
OFSTED 2013.

As of September 2014, all schools are required to promote the historical and current values that underpin the national identity known as being British and to actively promote those values through their curriculum. Our strong Catholic Ethos with its values of respect and concern for the students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, as identified by Ofsted, provide the foundation for the college delivery of these values. Each department welcomes the opportunity to promote these values independently as well as collectively, as demonstrated through the departmental appendices.

### **Fundamental British values are defined as:**

- (a) Democracy: Respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic process
- (b) The rule of law: Respect for the basis on which the law is made and applies in England
- (c) Individual liberty: Support and respect for the liberties of all within the law
- (d) Mutual respect and tolerance: Support for equality of opportunity for all and respect and tolerance of different faiths and religious and other beliefs

This British values policy and the embedding of British values across the college, forms an essential part of the delivery of the Prevent duty: 'having due regard to the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism' by ensuring that all students are valued as part of our community and that they are taught to respect the law, appreciate the views of others, engage with democratic ideas and practices and contribute positively to life in modern Britain. As such, the policy works alongside safeguarding and the Equalities Duty.

Both the broad and balanced curriculum and our Catholic ethos, create in our students a resilience to radicalisation and extremism.

### **How do we actively promote British Values at St Michael's?**

#### **Democracy**

- We provide pupils with a broad general knowledge of and promote respect for, public institutions and services through lessons, Assemblies, speaker events and curriculum programmes such as PSHE or Careers and Enterprise.
- We use the Student Council and other elected roles to teach pupils how they can influence decision making through democratic process. The Student Leadership Team works to promote democratic viewpoints and ensures, by working with form groups, that everyone is able to and is expected to contribute to the life of the College.

- We include information about the advantages and disadvantages of democracy and how it works in Britain and abroad through the PSHE, History, Geography, RE at KS3, broadening to include Government and Politics, Business Studies, Law and Economics at KS4 and 5
- We encourage students to be aware of injustice, perceived or real and think about ways in which this can be challenged through school processes or in the wider world through our Charity Fundraising initiatives and awareness raising campaigns such as Christmas food bank donations and the shoe box appeal.

### **Respect the Rule of Law**

- We ensure College rules and expectations are transparent, clear and fair, available for all to consult and that they are used consistently across the different areas and age groups within the College.
- We help pupils to distinguish right from wrong through discussion and modelling positive behaviour.
- We use our community Police officer visits to build an understanding of the local constabulary and their work to support the local community as well as to support student understanding of the rule of law.
- We help pupils to understand that the law and living under the rule of law is intended to protect individuals.
- We help pupils to understand that the law is to be respected through upholding and adhering to it as a community and to our own College rules.
- Positive behaviour to and from College is reinforced through assemblies and by SLT presence on the key routes home, within a radius of the college.
- We actively promote civic institutions so that students value and appreciate the local government, the Health system, the Police and the Justice system, Social Services and Public transport.
- A level Law is offered as an option at key stage 5.

### **Individual Liberty**

- We support all pupils to develop positive self-esteem, self-confidence and self-awareness and self-knowledge.
- Through our behaviour policy, we encourage pupils to assume responsibility for their own behaviour and acknowledge the effects it may have on others.
- We challenge stereotypes and promote individuality at every opportunity throughout the curriculum, modelled by staff and older students to set positive examples through the College.
- We work tirelessly to establish and maintain a climate in which all students feel safe and bullying is not tolerated.
- We encourage students to make their own informed choices through our personalised options and transition systems between each key stage from 3 to 5.

### **Respect and Tolerance**

- We promote respect for individual differences throughout the curriculum and across all subjects as part of our Catholic ethos.
- We use Curricular and extracurricular opportunities for example in RE, English, History, Drama and Geography to expose pupils to British and other cultures, their ways of life and faiths to encourage and support pupils in growing their understanding and appreciation of these.
- Through assemblies and acts of worship, students are taught to respect the beliefs and faith of others. Lessons on euthanasia, family life, abortion and Human Rights actively support students in understanding other view points on these complex issues.
- A wide range of resources are used within lessons to stimulate debate and broaden student awareness of different ethical positions

- In the sixth form, the EPQ is used to promote respect and tolerance, alongside work within individual subjects, RE and assemblies.
- Through the delivery of the curriculum as a whole, students are challenged to think critically, manage risk and resist pressure to behave in ways or to accept opinions that are counter to the values that the college promotes.

**In summary:**

As a Catholic College, all staff and students at St Michael’s are expected to behave with integrity, tolerance and compassion in their dealings with one another. We provide opportunities for all pupils not only to explore their own cultures and faith but also to understand how these align with British values and how we can work together as a community for the greater good.

**Reviewed June 2018**

**Signed:** .....  
**Chair of the Curriculum Committee**

**Date:**.....

**Signed:** .....  
**Chair of the Governors**

**Date:**.....

**Review Date: 2019**

**Appendices**

- British Values – Art & Design
- British Values – Business
- British Values – Computing & ICT
- British Values – D.T
- British Values – Drama
- British Values – English
- British Values – Geography
- British Values – History
- British Values – Law
- British Values – Maths
- British Values – Media Studies
- British Values – Modern Foreign Languages
- British Values – Music
- British Values – P.E
- British Values – Psychology
- British Values – R.E
- British Values - Science