



# **British Values Policy**

Holy Family Catholic Primary School  
&  
Our Lady and St Joseph Primary School

Our schools have a strong Catholic ethos which underpins everything we do. Knowing we are guided by God, we aspire to live our mission of truth, honesty, justice, and peace for all. Catholic Social Teaching permeates through our curriculum, interactions, and relationships.  
This is all manifested through God, Love and Family

**Our vision is to empower children to become architects of a better world.**

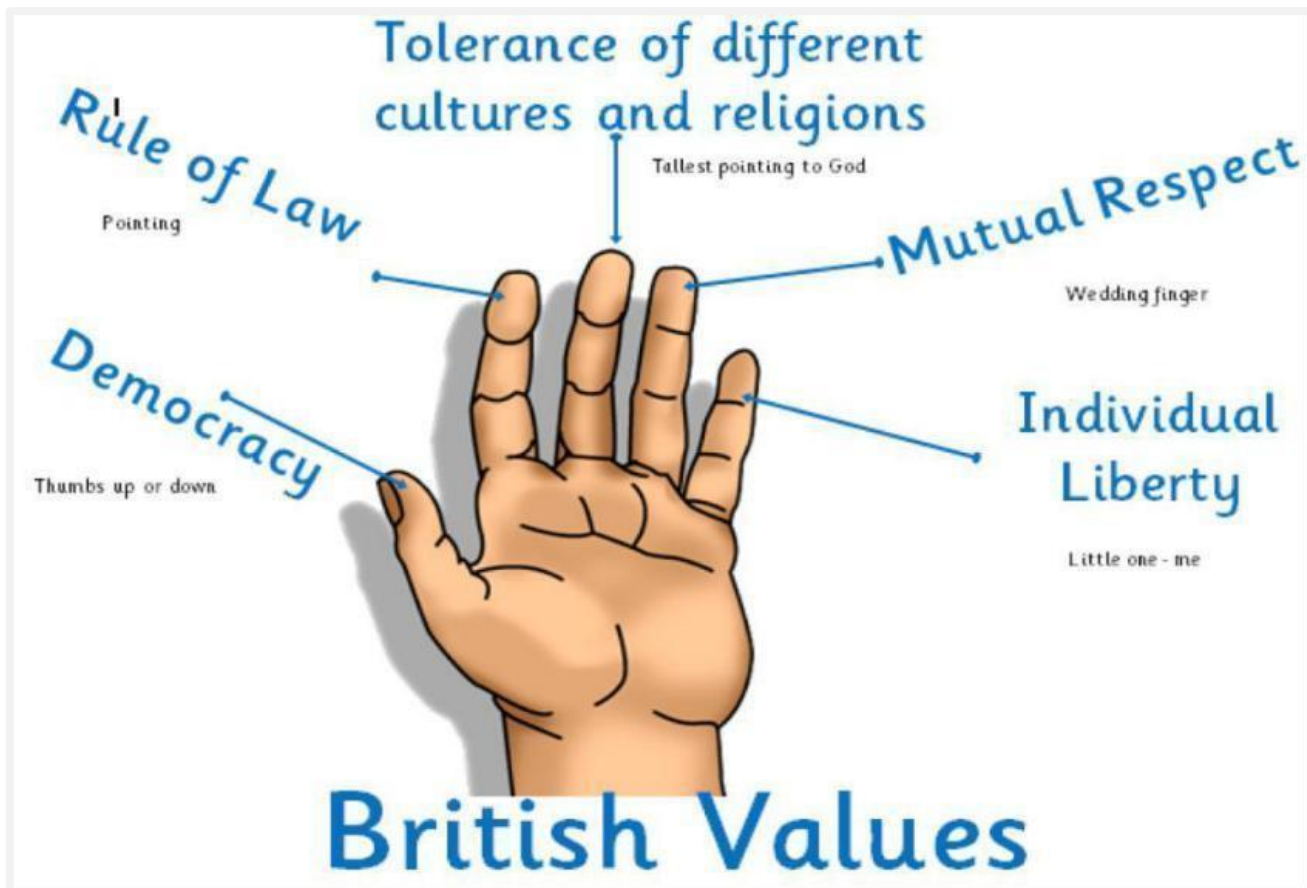
**We therefore continuously seek to evolve our holistic understanding and application of learning.**

**We hold a shared belief that this requires knowledge, effort, empathy, passion, and innovation.**

**This is our mission.**

## Promoting British Values:

Fundamental British values are promoted and embedded into all aspects of school life at our schools. Our Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) policy reflects these values, and it is our aim that all members of our school understand the importance of these values and how they are essential to enable us to operate as a community. Each half term, a different British value will be explored, and all children will consider in detail what this value means to them and how it will allow them to contribute to life in modern Britain.



## Democracy:

Democracy is well represented within the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council, in which members of the School Council are elected at the start of each new school year, solely through pupil votes. Those who are standing for election are encouraged to write speeches to persuade other voters. School Councillors are encouraged to listen to any issues that may arise within their class, address these at School Council meetings and feedback to their peers. Class debates are planned so pupils know how to argue and defend points of view. Pupils are encouraged to be leaders e.g., librarians, playground buddies, House captains, etc.

## **The Rule of Law:**

The importance of abiding laws within class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout the school day, as well as by dealing with behaviour issues and through school assemblies. Pupils are taught the value of laws and the reasons behind them, their role in protecting us, and the consequences for individuals when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Fire Service help to reinforce this message.

At the beginning of each school year, the children take part in creating a class charter which sets out the rules of their classroom, as well as recapping the school and playground golden rules.

## **Individual Liberty:**

At our schools, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. They are nurtured to know, understand, and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and themed PSHE days. Whether it be through choice of challenge, of how they record and present their work, of participation in extracurricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make their own choices.

## **Mutual Respect:**

Mutual respect is embedded in our relationships at school, and it is modelled to pupils by all members of staff, including teachers, senior management, lunchtime supervisors and others working in our school environment. Respect for others is promoted through our class rules, as well as our behaviour policy.

## **Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs:**

Our school ethos supports tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs. This is achieved by enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. Within the RE programme of study, time is dedicated to considering other faiths outside of Catholicism. The RE curriculum includes key teachings of Christianity, Sikhism, Judaism, Islam and Hinduism. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school.

**Date Policy approved by Governing body: March 2022**

**Policy Review date: March 2023**