



*Saint***GREGORY'S**
Bath

British Values Policy

Key Information

Title	British Values Policy	
Prepared By	Mr McDermott, Director of Pastoral Care	29 November 2020
Checked By	Mr Eddison, Chair of Governors	1 December 2020
Approved By	FGB	1 December 2020
Version	V2	
Document Update	January 2022	

Version History

Version	Date	Amendments
V1	January 2019	Policy agreed by Christian Vision Committee
V1.01	20 January 2020	Policy reviewed and agreed by Christian Vision Committee
V2	29.11.20	One deletion (SDP 2018)

In Christ we flourish

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School Mission Statement

As a Catholic school our inspiration is Jesus Christ, which is supported through Bishop Declan's 'A Future Full of Hope', involving three key elements of Mission, Prayer and Communion. We promote the dignity and well-being of every child to ensure that they flourish with us in a safe, happy and enriching environment. We believe that everyone is gifted and called by God to fulfill "some definite service" (J.H. Newman) for the greater good of society. We will help our students to discover their vocation in life, to achieve their full potential and to use their gifts for the greater glory of God.

The Lasallian Values help us promote both Gospel values and British values in mind. We aim to ensure that the educational experience offered at St Gregory's educates the whole child and equips them to be ready to take their place in the world as responsible citizens with strong moral values. Our mission as a Catholic school is summed up in the words of our motto, *In Christ we flourish*.

For our young people this means that we want them to flourish as rounded individuals in a learning environment which is explicitly Christian and allows their God-given gifts and abilities to grow and develop, as a school which places a strong focus on the performing arts and science.

We aim in particular to create a school culture with high expectations and aspirations in which the confidence, critical thinking and self-esteem of our young people is promoted and an understanding and respect of other cultures and the wonder of creation is embraced. We are committed to the good of the community, especially our partner Catholic schools and the wider community we serve. With Christ as our strength and inspiration we aim to provide an education which, above all, recognises the value and dignity of every person and aims to promote their personal development and well-being so that they will be ready to take their place in society as principled witnesses to the values of the Gospel.

Our commitment to the promotion of the British values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of other faiths and cultures arise out of our foundational commitment to Gospel values. British values arise out of the Christian heritage of this country. We are fully committed to the active promotion of those values, especially in the promotion of the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our students, which is such a feature of our school, described by Ofsted as "exceptional." Furthermore, we are committed to the implementation of the Prevent Guidance. Since we are inspired by the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the culture of our school is a 'culture of life'.

Statement of intent

This policy sets out the framework in which St Gregory's will ensure that it actively promotes the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

These values are officially taught through the curriculum and are further nurtured through the school's ethos and promotion of spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) understanding.

1. Legal framework

- 1.1. This policy takes into account the following legislation and guidance including, but not limited to, the:

- Equality Act 2010
- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Ofsted (2015) School Inspection Handbook
- DfE (2014) Improving the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of pupils: supplementary information

1.2. This policy will be implemented in conjunction with the school's:

- Safeguarding and Child protection Policy
- behaviour policy, Behaviour for Excellence

2. Roles and responsibilities

- 2.1. The Headteacher will ensure that all teachers and staff are aware of the requirement to uphold British values through the procedures outlined in this policy.
- 2.2. Teachers and support staff will ensure that their lessons are inclusive of, and sensitive to, the fundamental British values.
- 2.3. Students are expected to treat each other and staff with respect, in line with the school's behaviour policy.

3. Aims and objectives

- 3.1. Through our policy and procedures, we aim to ensure that our students have:
 - An understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process.
 - An appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their wellbeing and safety.
 - An understanding that there is a separation of power between the executive and the judiciary and that while some public bodies such as the police and the army can be held to account through Parliament, others, such as the courts, maintain independence.
 - An understanding that the freedom to hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law.
 - An acceptance that people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated, and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour.
 - An understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination.

4. Democracy

- 4.1. At St Gregory's students have numerous opportunities to have their views heard through student questionnaires and the student-elected Senate.

5. The rule of law

- 5.1. St Gregory's has a high regard for the laws that govern and protect the school, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. All students are involved in the creation of school rules to inspire them with this understanding.
- 5.2. Students are taught these values and the reasons behind laws, whether they govern the class, the school or the country, that are essential for their well-being and safety. Students are allowed healthy debate in class on the matter to encourage recognition of the importance of the law.
- 5.3. The school organises visits from authorities throughout the academic year in an effort to reinforce the reality and importance of this message.
- 5.4. The school understands the importance of promoting British values through a comprehensive and inclusive curriculum.

6. Individual liberty

- 6.1. At St Gregory's a safe and supportive environment is fostered where students are actively encouraged to make choices. Whether it is choosing a challenging task or an extra-curricular club, students have the freedom to base their choices on their interests.
- 6.2. Students are taught about their rights and personal freedoms and are encouraged and advised on how to exercise these safely, for instance through teaching on e-safety and PSHE lessons.

7. Mutual respect

- 7.1. Respect forms a core pillar of St Gregory's ethos. Students are treated with respect and learn to treat each other and all members of staff with respect.
- 7.2. This is reinforced through our behaviour policy.

8. Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

- 8.1. St Gregory's acknowledges that tolerance is achieved through students' knowledge and understanding of their place in a culturally-diverse society and the opportunity for students to experience such diversity.
- 8.2. Throughout the year assemblies are held focussing on bullying, with reference to prejudice-based bullying, and discussion is encouraged.
- 8.3. Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs is supported by the RE and PSHE curriculum.
- 8.4. The school encourages its students from different faiths or religions to share their knowledge with their peers to enhance their learning.

9. Challenging views at odds with British values

- 9.1. The school openly challenges opinions and behaviour, demonstrated by both staff and students, which is at odds with British values.

10. Staff training

- 10.1. At St Gregory's, members of staff are made aware of their responsibilities in terms of Gospel and British values during their thorough staff briefings and meetings
- 10.2. Staff will be offered the opportunity for further training on upholding the British Values Policy.

11. Policy review

- 11.1. This policy is kept under regular review by the Director of Pastoral Care and amended as appropriate to reflect any changes to regulations.