



St Joseph's Values for Education Policy

'Only the Best is Good Enough'

ETHOS STATEMENT

St. Joseph's High School endeavours to be a centre of excellence which serves the needs of all its pupils and staff and where the teachings and values of Jesus are reflected in its structures and policies.

Our mission is to ensure all children experience the love of Christ through the presence of each other, the staff, our parents and the Church.

At St Joseph's High School we ensure that through our school vision, values, rules, diverse curriculum and teaching we promote tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths and lifestyles (paying particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010). The governing body also ensures that this ethos is reflected and implemented effectively in school policy and practice and that there are effective risk assessments in place to safeguard and promote students' welfare.

We have a duty to prepare our children for life in modern Britain and to keep them safe. The DfE have recently reinforced the 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 DfE has produced advice on these regulations for maintained schools. This says: *'All maintained schools must meet the requirements set out in section 78 of the Education Act 2002 and promote the SMSC development of their pupils. Through ensuring pupils' SMSC development, schools can also demonstrate they are actively promoting fundamental British values'*.

Aim

At St Joseph's Catholic High School it is our aim to raise standards by promoting a school ethos which is underpinned by 4 core values:

Respect

Understanding

Affection

Humour

These four core values fit together to make to produce a much larger concept, RUAH, the word used in Hebrew, Christian and Islamic scriptures to represent the breath of the spirit: the breath of God. They support the development of the whole child as a reflective learner within a calm, caring, happy and purposeful atmosphere. Teaching the schools core values alongside the fundamental British Values supports quality teaching and learning, whilst making a positive contribution to the development of a fair, just and civil society.

The Fundamental British Values include:

Democracy

Democracy is evident throughout our school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our student voice of including prefects, student leaders, Head Boy and Head Girl and Pupil Questionnaires. We also endeavour to get students to participate in the local democratic process wherever possible, for example meeting local councillors, the Mayor and other people in positions of responsibility.

The Rule of Law

The importance of Laws/rules, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced by all staff members in all situations, be it in the classroom, playground or around the school. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws; that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and consequences when laws/rules are broken. For example we endeavour to engage in regular visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service as regular parts of our school calendar.

Individual Liberty

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised on how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety, tutor time and assemblies. Whether it be through choice of challenge or activity in lessons, how they record work, selection of lunches or participation in our extensive extra-curricular clubs, pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

Mutual Respect

Our school ethos and behaviour policy has revolved around Core Values such as 'Respect'. The importance of mutual respect is central to the school behaviour policy and permeates the day to day dealings of all staff and pupils. Pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies related to what this means and how it is shown.

Tolerance of and respect for those of all faiths, no faith, different cultures and lifestyles

This is achieved through enhancing pupils understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity through visits and discussions. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based issues have been followed and supported by learning in RE.

As a school we have found that the best way to instil such values in pupils is to reflect them in the way our institution is run. We embody democracy in the

way we work, within our school ethos and within our school culture. Our Behaviour Policy and framework of rules and regulations are there for the benefit of everyone. St Joseph's Catholic High School values the diverse ethnic backgrounds of all pupils and families and undertakes a variety of events and lessons to celebrate these. We have found this approach to be enriching for all parties as it teaches tolerance and respect for the differences in our community and the wider world. Underpinning all this, are a range of aspects of the curriculum, in all year groups, which have strong links to British Values.

Related Policies:

Child Protection Policy

Equal Opportunities Policy

Behaviour Policy

Anti-Bullying Policy

Dealing with Allegations of Abuse against Staff

Values for Success

Values Education has a crucial role in education, because it plays a part in raising achievement and it encourages pupils to be self-disciplined active learners. St Joseph's Catholic High School has developed a clear strategy for embedding these core British Values. Our aim is to ensure that young people understand the importance of respect and leave school fully prepared for life in modern Britain.

These values are addressed directly in whole school assemblies, at times through lessons, but also permeate the whole curriculum. These Fundamental Values are the basis for the social, intellectual, emotional, spiritual and moral development of the whole child. We encourage children to consider these values and thereby to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes that enable them to develop as reflective learners and grow to be stable, educated and civil adults. Below shows an example of how these values are taught within the new Broad and Balanced Curriculum and how this has impacted pupils learning.

An example of Curriculum Mapping for Year 7

Value	Context	Subject	Outcome for Pupils
Democracy/Individual Liberty	Remembrance Sunday	Assemblies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils deepen their understanding of the World Wars and the reasons people gave up their lives • Pupils consider and explore what it would be like to live in a non-democratic society
Mutual Respect and Tolerance	Can I Live in two countries at once	Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils explore and develop an understanding of the differences between different regions of the UK and the impact they have on them
Democracy/Individual Liberty	Where does Year 7 come from?	Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils learn about the different types of migrants, the reasons why people migrate and the effect this has on them as individuals
The rule of Law/Democracy/Individual Liberty	What does our countries flag actually mean?	Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils explore the different flags of the UK and what they symbolise. • They develop an understanding of the difference between the Union Flag and the Union Jack
Mutual Respect and Tolerance/Individual Liberty	Black History Month	Assemblies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils gain a greater understanding of individuals from different cultural backgrounds • Pupils celebrate Leaders in changing how society views individual liberty
Tolerance and Respect for those of different cultures and lifestyles	Who is my neighbour?	Assemblies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils are led in an exploration of the diverse backgrounds

			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• of the population of slough and its surrounding areas• Pupils develop the idea of their own identity and celebrate our culturally diverse school community.
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