



## **British Values Statement**

Our Vision as a Church of England school is to deliver a caring, stimulating and enjoyable experience for all our pupils, during which pupils are expected to do their best at all times and to live out our Christian values by treating others as they would like to be treated. John 10:10 states (Good News Bible) "I have come in order that you might have life--life in all its fullness" and our vision aligns with this in that through our broad and balanced curriculum offer pupils should leave our school with: strong basic skills of communication, self-management and team-working skills, be able to access the next stage of learning, be useful and caring citizens of our country with pride and awareness of our collective values and with special memories of their time at our school.

Our Mission Statement is "to learn with care, fun, faith and respect".

### **Ethos Statement**

Recognising its historic foundation, the school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church at parish and diocesan level.

The school aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith and promotes Christian values through the experiences it offers to all its pupils.

The children will gain skills, knowledge, and understanding enabling them to experience success and to realise their potential in a safe and caring environment. The children will be taught those values and attitudes which will strengthen their respect for themselves and others, enabling them to take their place in society with confidence. The way people behave towards one another plays a vital role in achieving this aim.

### **Introduction:**

Values of our society which are defined by the British Government as "**British values**" are democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. These were first introduced to schools in 2011 via the Prevent Strategy and were strengthened in 2014 to requiring a statement on how British values are taught and delivered in schools. These British Values align with our Christian values and vision. At Wilbarston CE Primary School the British Values of our society are reinforced regularly, in line with our Christian values in the following ways:

## **Democracy**

Pupils are actively encouraged to have a voice and share their views and opinions regularly. Our House Captain and School Council elections are examples. Every September we have an election week when the candidates for these roles perform speeches to the rest of their class. A secret ballot ensues and the results are announced in a special assembly. The School Council representatives (2 per class) meet regularly then take the ideas from the meeting back to their classes for discussion.

Every pupil also contributes their ideas to the composition of their own class rules every year. This sets ground rules for classroom conduct and establishes the standards of behaviour pupils can expect from each other over the year ahead. All pupils also complete questionnaires, which provide them with the opportunity to share their views and suggest ways in which the School could be improved further. Pupils are also encouraged to give their views about a variety of topics through pupil voice interviews conducted by staff and governors.

## **The Rule of Law**

The importance of law is consistently reinforced throughout the School day, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through School collective worship. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Our School Golden Rules which are referred to regularly and consistently upheld, are a practical example of this.

## **Individual Liberty**

Pupils are actively encouraged to make decisions and choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a School, we educate and provide boundaries for young children to take risks and make choices safely. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our Online Safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it be through choice of learning challenge, how they record their learning, participation in one of our extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices and make decisions.

## **Mutual Respect**

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Pupils learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the School community are expected to / will treat each other with respect. It is one of our key Christian values and at the heart of all we do in school.

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

Wilbarston CEVC Primary School is situated in an area, which is not culturally diverse; therefore, we place a great emphasis on promoting diversity with the children. All curriculum areas and in particular RE and PSHE reinforce this. Each year the pupils explore a world faith alongside their learning about Christianity. By the time they leave us all pupils have learnt about the beliefs and practices of people of the following world faiths; Judaism, Sikhism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam and Christianity. Members of different faith groups are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within the School and visits to places of worship are integrated into the curriculum.

At our school we will actively challenge any member of the school community expressing views which are in opposition to British Values, including but not limited to extreme views.