



# **St Leonard's CE(A) First School**

## **British Values Statement**

**Responsibility of: Foundation  
Governors**

**Developed in consultation with:**  
Teaching Staff  
Governing Board

**Adopted by the Governing Body:**

Feb 2022  
Date for review: Feb 2024

Date of last policy reviewed	Changes made
January 2017	Dates were the only changes made. An addition was made to describe how British values had been aligned to our four core school values (p1).
January 2019	Additions made: Range of leadership opportunities in school. Middle school transition work with anti-bullying ambassadors.
January 2020	Additions: Children bringing their ideas to life through leadership roles in the school. Litter picking and community projects added. Individual liberty - statement added - The schools main mission is for our pupils to find, explore and develop their individual talents throughout their time with us. Staff give them the freedom to do this in addition to tailoring the curriculum to their interests where possible.
January 2022	Anti-bullying ambassadors changed to kindness ambassadors. Christian Aid regular speaker removed as we do not have access to this at the current time.

## Promoting British Values Statement 2022/23

British values are embedded in the life of St Leonard's CE (A) First School. In 2017 we aligned these values to our own four school core values of love, respect, endeavour and curiosity. They are actively promoted through spiritual, moral, social and cultural education and form a part of our distinctive Christian character. British and Christian values are regularly promoted through high quality teaching across the curriculum, within Collective Worship, and by a positive behaviour policy which allows pupils to develop and demonstrate skills and attributes that will allow them to contribute positively to life in Modern Britain. These values and attitudes are promoted and reinforced by all staff and used to provide a model of behaviour for all our pupils. The way in which the school community behave and treat others is built upon a basis of respect, individual worth and Christian love, while recognising that many of these guiding principles are present in other faiths and cultures.

St. Leonard's CE (A) First School is committed to serving its community. It recognises the multi-cultural, multi faith and ever changing nature of the United Kingdom. It also understands the vital role it has in ensuring that groups or individuals within the school are not subjected to intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to unduly, or illegally, influence them. It follows equal opportunities guidance which guarantees that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status, or similar. St. Leonard's First School is dedicated to preparing children for

their adult life beyond the formal examined curriculum and ensuring that it promotes and reinforces British Values to all its students.

St. Leonard's First School use strategies within the National Curriculum and beyond to secure such outcomes for all children. The examples that follow show some of the many ways St. Leonard's First School seeks to embed British Values.

### **Democracy:**

*But now as for what is inside you - be generous to the poor, and everything will be clean for you.... You load people down with burdens they can hardly carry, and you yourselves will not lift one finger to help them'. [Luke 11: 39 - 41]*

Democracy and communication is embedded in school life as the 'voice' of each pupil is valued and heard. Pupils are listened to by adults and taught to listen actively to one another, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions heard. Pupils have the opportunity to share opinions and ideas and bring them to life through the School Council and regular 'pupil voice' evaluation. Elections of the School Council members are based on pupil votes after each child has shared their manifesto. School council make decisions regarding school issues such as how to develop playtimes. Pupils are encouraged to take on responsibilities within school which are shared out fairly through a monitor system. There are a wealth of leadership opportunities that pupils have access to in school; worship council who lead worship, learning and kindness ambassadors and health and safety council. The principle of democracy is also explored in the History and Religious Studies curriculum as well as in lesson time and assemblies.

### **Rule of Law:**

*'What does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God' [Micah 6:8]*

The importance of laws, whether governing the class, the school or the country, is consistently reinforced. The children discuss and set their own classroom rules to ensure that they are relevant and clearly understood by all. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, the responsibility they have to uphold them and the consequences when laws are broken. They are taught the importance of right and wrong, in particularly relating to the schools Christian values. The school council are involved in designing their own rules for things such as use of toys at lunchtimes. Visits from authorities such as the Police, the Fire Service and Health Care professionals help to underpin this message. Pupils are taught about and encouraged to reflect on the 10 commandments of Christianity through our Christian ethos. St. Leonard's has a robust anti-bullying culture and comprehensive behaviour policy to support our school.

### **Individual liberty**

*'I have called you by name, you are mine' [Isaiah 43:1]*

*'I know the plans I have for you, they are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.' [Jeremiah 29:11]*

Pupils at this school are seen as unique and valued individuals, each of whom is equally important. They are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their

rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely through many curriculum subjects, particularly in PSHCE and e-safety lessons. The schools main mission is for our pupils to find, explore and develop their individual talents throughout their time with us. Staff give them the freedom to do this in addition to tailoring the curriculum to their interests where possible. Pupils are encouraged to use their reasoning skills to question the curriculum and share their opinions. They are taught in a way that promotes independent decision making and learning. Pupils here have particular freedoms in their outdoor learning on 'Welly Wednesday's'. We help pupils to engage fully in community life and social settings, such as the local café connect in the village and events such as the annual road race at the Memorial Hall, and also by participating in community projects such as organising fair trade coffee mornings, working alongside St Leonard's Church, litter picking and other community projects. Pupils are willing to participate in artistic, sporting and cultural activities, such as our school cluster sports days, swimming galas and by making a contribution to our local Agricultural show, both through entering their classes relating to their talents and by performing traditional dances.

### **Mutual respect**

*'anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister'. [1 John 4:21]*

Respect is an important value to pupils and staff and is deeply embedded in learning and behaviour. Pupils understand that respect must be shown to everyone, whatever differences there may be. Respect underpins school life, in and out of the classroom. Pupils learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. Once a year, at remembrance time, the British Legion come into school and we hold a service, with our older children attending another event. All members of the school community treat each other with respect. We teach the children to resolve conflict through our Christian ethos. Mutual Respect is embraced throughout the curriculum by providing the opportunity for children to express their views in a safe environment, with St. Leonard's ethos being shared and owned by all. The school community engages in an annual anti-bullying week and keeps this high profile throughout the year. Pupil anti-bullying ambassadors from the local Middle school visit school to train our pupils.

### **Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs**

*'I have other sheep, too, that are not in this sheepfold.' [John 10:16] and 'If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that? ... If you are kind only to your friends how are you different from anyone else?' [Matthew 5:46]*

Christian concepts and values form an integral part of pupils' daily learning but are taught alongside an understanding and celebration of different faiths, cultures, philosophies and beliefs. This tolerance is embedded within all subjects, particularly RE, enabling pupils to gain an enhanced understanding of the place of religion in a multi-faith world and their own place in a culturally diverse society. Pupils explore different cultures through visits and visitors. The pupils make visits to places which help them to understand different communities and faiths such as the Hindu Temple and mosques in Derby. Our RE curriculum follows the Diocesan syllabus which has a balance of Christianity and a range of faiths, religions and cultures. breadth and balance is also provided by our topic based curriculum and programme of world festivals that are explored throughout the year.

St. Leonard's First School strives to ensure that its pupils leave with the strongest foundation of values upon which to build a successful contribution to our society.