

Supporting British Values

St John the Evangelist C. E. (Aided) Primary School

St. John the Evangelist is a Church of England School and Christian values underpin all we do. We promote these values through our words and our deeds; they permeate every aspect of our school life. During their time with us our pupils develop a strong sense of social, spiritual and moral responsibility which will prepare them for life in modern Britain.

The school's curriculum is broad, balanced and promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. There are high expectations for all pupils to work as active, independent learners. We endeavour to help children understand the importance of truth and fairness so that they grow up committed to equal opportunities for all.

Democracy

The school values pupil voice and we ask the pupils about their learning, their concerns and their ideas about how we can make things better for them.

Key aspects of the teaching of 'Democracy' are below – the ways in which these aspects are evidenced at St John's are seen in *italics*.

- Exploring the concept of voting - *election of school councillors (older children are encouraged to tell their peers why they think they'd be the right person for the role), voting for SUPERCLASS rewards, incidental voting in class – e.g. what flavour jam shall we have with our scones at our tea party? Age appropriate exploration of National Election/BREXIT vote. eg in Y5-6 the children drew up their own manifestos and tried to persuade others to vote for them in a mock election.*
- Understanding the way that citizens can influence decision making - *work of the school council: issues/concerns raised by children through their class 'School Council Suggestion Boxes'. Minutes of the school council shared during class time, opportunity provided for class representatives to explain reasoning behind decisions. Views of children sought about range of matters e.g. what rewards could we work towards as Houses this year?*
- Exploring the history of democracy in Britain - *Theme weeks – looking at key events during specific decades in British history.*
- Recognising the injustice that can result from a lack of democracy (e.g. Theme week based on the Amnesty International Text: 'Dreams of Freedom')
- Ensuring that all pupils are listened to by adults - *Pupil Voice Survey shows that children feel safe at school and know who to talk to if they are worried about something.*
- Exploration of the Christian values (*E.g. Worship themes such as Justice and Truthfulness*)
- Exploring the issue of choice - *from the earliest age children are encouraged to recognise that they are responsible for the choices they make, using the language of 'choice' when discussing behaviour.*

The Rule Of Law

The children are introduced to our school rules from their earliest days in EYFS. Pupils understand the school's rules; they can articulate why we have our rules and what happens if these rules are broken.

Key aspects of the teaching of 'The Rule of Law' are below – the ways in which these aspects are evidenced at St John's are seen in *italics*.

- High expectations for behaviour are explored in the Behaviour and Anti-Bullying policies – *children's understanding of the 'STOP' message is explored both in class and in assembly time.*
- An understanding of consequences for those that break rules – *the idea of 'choice' is explored through PSHE lessons and children are encouraged to recognise that they make their own behaviour choices. Our school's rewards and sanctions are displayed in every classroom, lesson observations and learning walks demonstrate that these are followed consistently across the school. The LBP monitors behaviour records across the school. She supports staff in working with pupils who find it difficult to follow our school rules.*
- Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind our country's laws, that they govern and protect us – *this is reinforced through topics such as 'People Who Help Us' in EYFS and by visits from our local PCSO and Fire Service.*
- Pupils have a well-developed sense of justice – *explored not only through Christian Value worship themes such as Justice and Responsibility but also through other curriculum areas.*

Individual Liberty

Alongside rules and laws, we promote the freedom of choice and the right to respectfully express views and beliefs.

Key aspects of the teaching of 'Individual Liberty' are below – the ways in which these aspects are evidenced at St John's are seen in *italics*.

- Provision of a safe and secure environment where children can make choices safely – *children are given opportunities to make choices on a daily basis e.g. what will I have for lunch today? Which after school club will I attend? We promote independent learning and foster a sense of resilience and perseverance, exploring the image of 'The Learning Pit' from a young age.*
- Children are taught to listen to each other and respect another person's point of view – *through debate and drama activities such as hot-seating or conscience alley.*
- Pupils are taught how to keep themselves safe whilst they exercise their rights and personal freedoms – *through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons. Children and their families are also supported by the family support worker. Safeguarding is embedded in every aspect of life at St John's.*
- Reflection on choices made and the opportunity to move on – *pupils are given the opportunity to reflect in worship time and class time e.g. completion of a reflection sheet during a time out period.*

Mutual Respect and Tolerance

Christian values are at the heart of all that we do at St. John's. All members of the school community are seen as unique members of God's family and we treat each other with respect. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others.

Key aspects of the teaching of 'Mutual Respect and Tolerance' are below – the ways in which these aspects are evidenced at St John's are seen in *italics*.

- Show tolerance for others and have a curiosity to find out and understand cultures and faiths that are different from their own – *St John's is situated in an area which is not greatly culturally diverse, therefore we place an emphasis on promoting diversity with the children through theme weeks, visits and visitors.*
- Pupils show respect and good manners – *adults actively model respect for one another and the children. The Teaching and Learning Review (March 2017) stated "The school is a calm and orderly environment in which pupils' behaviour and manners are consistently at least good."*
- Explore the examples of positive role models – *each child is a member of one of four school houses: Nightingale, Baden-Powell, Barnado and Keller, children are encouraged to explore the lives and legacy of these and other significant people.*
- Recognising the value of everyone's opinions – *in debate and class discussion. The school council is made up of representatives from Year one to Year Six. Each class has a suggestion box for school council issues and children are encouraged to 'Have your say!'*
- Issues of intolerance are dealt with quickly and consistently – *all pupils explore the 'STOP' slogan which identifies bullying as unkindness which has happened 'Several Times On Purpose' in class and assembly time. Pupils are trained to recognise what bullying looks like and how to respond to it.*
- Supporting charitable works - *the children enthusiastically support many different charities, both locally, nationally and internationally e.g. Operation Christmas Child, NSPCC, Macmillans.*

British Values through the Curriculum

At St John's we provide a wide range of balanced learning opportunities in a caring and stimulating environment so that the children grow over the years into independent, responsible and valued members of society.

Some examples are:

Geography: we ensure that children have an understanding of what Britain is, learning about its capital cities and countries, its rivers and mountains, where Britain is in relation to the rest of Europe and the other countries in the world. Annual theme weeks give us the opportunity to do this at greater depth.

History: Britain and its influence in modern times are woven into our teaching and learning. Children are given the opportunity to find out about the lives of role models and their legacy in today's world e.g. Nelson Mandela, Malala Yousafzai and Helen Keller. Visits to the local area and beyond encourage children to find out about how their town and country has been shaped e.g. the importance of Macclesfield's silk industry.

English: children find out about significant British writers and celebrate their work e.g. a theme week exploring the work of Roald Dahl (Spring 2017).

Music: children find out about significant British composers and musical genres through weekly power points in worship time. We welcome visitors such as Key Strings and The Pop Project.

Art: children find out about significant British artists. We have also welcomed local artists to work with children in our school.

Computing: children are taught how to stay safe online. Drama groups have helped the children explore the sensitive issue of cyber bullying.

PHSE: children are taught how to stay safe through exploration of school's STOP policy, the PANTS rule (NSPCC) etc. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights safely.

R.E.: All members of the school community are encouraged to explore Christian values and come to a personal understanding of the role that they can play in their own life. Children are encouraged to gain knowledge of Christianity and other world faiths. Pupils debate and discuss issues of faith and are encouraged to show respect and tolerance to those of the same, different faiths and those of no faith.