

## Promoting British Values at St Bonaventure's Catholic Primary School Statement

At St Bon's we are committed to promoting British values in line with recent Department for Education (DfE) recommendations and the requirements of the Equalities Act 2010 to keep children safe and prepare them for life in modern Britain. We welcome the DfE's focus on strengthening the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) standard by actively promoting the 'fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect for those with different faiths and beliefs, and encourage pupils to respect other people, with particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010'.

### Democracy

Democracy is a fundamental value of our school community and integral to all that we do. For example, pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our pupil questionnaires, the election of house captains, ECO Council and School Council representative.

### The rule of law

The importance of rules is explored in a variety of ways and is further reinforced through the Behaviour policy. The school behaviour code promotes our high expectations regarding what is right and wrong and how to make appropriate choices. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules, how they govern and protect us and the responsibilities and consequences when rules are broken. Within our school curriculum, we provide many opportunities for pupils to take part in activities around this topic, for example through school assemblies and classroom topics.

### Individual liberty

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make informed choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school, we educate and provide boundaries for pupils to make safe choices within a broad and balanced curriculum. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and how to exercise these safely. For example through our e-safety and PHSE activities (please refer to PHSE across the curriculum document). Pupils also have the opportunity to participate in a variety of enrichment and extra-curricular residential visits and clubs.

### Mutual Respect

We strongly encourage pupils to respect others and do our utmost to prevent and tackle all forms of bullying and harassment; this includes cyber-bullying and prejudice-based bullying relating to special educational need, sex, race, religion and belief, disability, sexual orientation or gender reassignment. We are committed to giving our pupils the opportunities to flourish as rounded individuals in a learning environment which is explicitly

Christian but open and respectful of differing viewpoints. Our curriculum provided young people with a context for understanding themselves and the world in which they live, in order to prepare them for their future as responsible citizens within our society. We endeavour to develop the self-esteem and self-discipline of our pupils and develop their talents so that they realise their potential to the full.

### **Respect for Different Faiths and Beliefs:**

St Bon's is an inclusive community, where all are valued irrespective of faith and traditions. Aspects of the curriculum are linked to raising pupil awareness and respect for, the faith and traditions of other communities – both on a local and global scale. Together with this, there is the strong emphasis on the development of social, moral, spiritual and cultural skills where pupils are encouraged to think and decide for themselves, and be respectful of the views of others.