

British Values at St. Thomas':

At the heart of St. Thomas' is our Christian beliefs and values. We encourage the children to recognise that they are part of the wider British society, which is multi-cultural and multi-faith in its composition (in fact one of core curriculums strands is 'celebrate diversity'. We also understand that we have a crucial role to play in ensuring that our children become valuable and fully rounded members of society, who treat others with respect and tolerance and are fully prepared for life in modern Britain. This statement outlines the key British values we actively promote.

Individual Liberty:

- Pupil voice is encouraged through our various school councils.
- There are several opportunities for children to share their opinions about St. Thomas' e.g. our pupil survey and pupil voice meetings.
- Through our wider curriculum, children can make choices about the different clubs and activities they attend.
- Our curriculum is planned to expose children to look at periods of history where people have fought for individual liberty e.g. the abolition of slavery.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and religions:

- 'Celebrate Diversity' is one of our core Lighthouse Curriculum strands and this is woven into many aspects of our curriculum.
- Through our planned programme of collective worship, children are taught about the beliefs of different religions and those with different beliefs e.g. Muslim Learner Service Whole School Workshop during World Religion Day
- Planned visits and visitors expose children to people of different religions e.g. Y4 trip to the mosque.
- Within our planned RE curriculum, there are opportunities for children to learn about other religions other than Christianity, such as Judaism and Islam.

Mutual Respect

- Through our planned programme of collective worship, children are encouraged to show respect for others e.g. Martin Luther King Day.
- Special theme days and weeks encourage children to show respect for others e.g. 'Smashing Stereotypes and Celebrating Diversity Week'.
- Our Equality Code encourages all children and adults to treat everyone equally.
- Planned visits and visitors expose children to people of different religions e.g. Muslim Learner Service Whole School Workshop during World Religion Day and the Y4 trip to the mosque.
- Texts around school expose children to different figures or beliefs e.g. reading spine and school library includes texts about how families are all different.



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Democracy:

- The children experience a democratic process through the election of various councils and committees, including our school council, climate crew and worship committee.
- Our Year 6 children nominate themselves for positions of responsibility such as prefects, Sports Captains and 'Head Girl' or 'Head Boy'. These are then voted for by children and staff.
- As a Voice 21 school, children often have the opportunity to experience class debates e.g. within Picture News.
- Our planned curriculum covers various aspects of democracy and how events have shaped society today such as Ancient Greece and the suffragette movement.

Rule of Law:

- The school has clear expectations for behaviour, we call these our STAR behaviours which include: learning behaviours, values and etiquette.
- Within our planned curriculum, children learn about the origin of British law and begin to look at the Magna Carta in Year 1.