



# *Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Primary School*



## **Promoting British Values at Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Primary School and Nursery**

### **Our School Vision**

**As a Catholic school that puts Christ at the centre, we are committed to developing independent, successful and confident children who have high aspirations, who gain a sense of achievement and leave our school with a wealth of happy memories.**

### **Values and Ethos**

**We believe that everyone is made in the image and likeness of God and we value the equality of all, reject discrimination of any kind, and welcome the diversity of different cultures.**

The DfE have recently reinforced the need “*to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.*”

The Government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy, and these values have been reiterated this year (2014). At Our Lady's these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

#### **Democracy**

All children vote for their class representatives who sit on the School Council. The School Council meets every month with Miss Ward and the Chair and Vice Chair then discuss issues raised in School council meetings with the Headteacher. The council has its own budget and is genuinely able to effect change within the school. Children have an annual questionnaire where they are able to put forward their views about the school.

#### **The Rule of Law**

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced at Our Lady's.

Pupils are taught from an early age the rules of the school. These are our three School Rules and Playground Rules. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service help reinforce this message.

#### **Individual Liberty**

At Our Lady's, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education. Pupils are encouraged

to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our eSafety and PSHE lessons.

### **Mutual Respect**

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values and school ethos. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect. One of our School Rules reads: Care for everyone and everything.

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

Our Lady's is increasingly a diverse school. Although we are a Catholic school we promote diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures. Religious Education lessons and PSHE lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others. Members of different faiths and religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school.

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