



Mellor St Mary CE Primary School

Believing, Learning and Sharing Together

Prevent, Radicalisation and Promoting Fundamental British Values Statement



British Values

As a British citizen we also have a set of values

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs



From July 2015, the Counter Terrorism and Security Act placed a statutory duty on all schools to prevent people being drawn into terrorism and extremism. Since then, this has been supported with the Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales which came into force in December 2023 and updated March 2024. Keeping Children Safe in Education which is annually updated also supports the statutory duties placed on schools to ensure Prevent strategies are in effective and reviewed regularly to protect pupils, staff and the local community.

Definition of extremism

Extremism is the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We also regard calls for the death of members of our armed forces extremist. (*Counter Extremism Strategy October 2015*)

Definition of terrorism

Terrorism is defined as action designed to influence the government, intimidate the public,. Its purpose is to advance a political, religious or ideological cause that endangers or causes serious violence or harm to people, property or seriously disrupts or interferes with an electronic system. (*Terrorism Act 2006*)

In School we...

Since 2012, it has been required by law for all educationalists to uphold fundamental British Values.

The government set out its definition of British Values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. The Department for Education state that there is a 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.”



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At Mellor St Mary Primary School we are committed to upholding these values alongside our Christian core values of love, peace, forgiveness and fellowship. We ensure that they are reinforced regularly through teaching and learning which has a clear focus on enabling all children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. We are aware Inspectors will assess and verify the breadth and balance of the school's curriculum and whether it is likely to promote preparation for, and an appreciation of, life in modern Britain.

OFSTED reported *"Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is excellent. Pupils are kind, considerate, responsible and reflective. There are very strong links with the local church and community and the school works well to raise pupils' awareness and understanding of the wider world. For example, children from Belarus have visited the school regularly. Pupils are very well prepared for life in modern Britain."* (Mellor St Mary OFSTED Report Dec 2014)

Modern Britain

Mellor St Mary CE Primary is committed to serving its local, national and international community. We recognise the multi-cultural, multi faith and ever-changing landscape of the United Kingdom. As a Church school, we actively promote virtues, ethics and the 'Values for Life' which shape our children's character and moral perspective, through the teachings of the Church and within our worship. We encourage children and staff to witness these values in their everyday lives. The teachers' standards expect teachers to uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school. This includes not undermining fundamental British values. We are confident that our continued focus on the Gospel will give our children the necessary awareness of what it means to be a good citizen in Britain today and embed in them the building blocks of a future successful and productive life. We teach about democracy, civic responsibility, rules and laws, the monarchy, equality, values and virtues through 'Roots and Fruits' and 'Values for Life', the national curriculum including PHSCE, environmental awareness and the understanding of other faiths. The Staff and Governors use every opportunity to promote the rich ethos of our school and seek to serve all so that all feel a sense of belonging and welcome.

Democracy

Respect for democracy, democratic participation and active involvement of all pupils is evident across the school. We aim to provide pupils with a broad general knowledge of and promote respect for public institutions and services. Our aim is to teach pupils how they can influence decision making through the democratic process. Consequently we strive to provide children, parents and staff with many opportunities for their voices to be heard in school. We have an active school council whose members are chosen / elected by the children. The school councillors work alongside the Headteacher to enable them to influence and make decisions in matters which affect their lives within the school. This reflects our British electoral system and demonstrates democracy in action.



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SIAMS inspection report 'There is a broad and rich curriculum which contributes fully to the children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development. Activities include the work of the eco-committee in promoting a responsibility to, and appreciation of, God's creation. '(October 2014)

In Early Years, as part of the focus on self confidence and self awareness, as cited in Personal, Social and Emotional Development, staff encourage children to see their role in the bigger picture, encouraging children to know their views count, value each other's views and values and talk about their feelings, for example when they do and do not need help. Democracy in action is demonstrated through adult and child inspired topic selections and all children's ideas are actively sought through shared sessions where activities and opportunities to develop enquiring minds are promoted.

Our school behaviour policy involves rewards and sanctions which the pupils vote on and so can facilitate understanding of wider issues within the context of learning about the values on which our society is founded and our system of democratic government. Children work together to agree school golden rules and the rights associated with these. They are listened to and taught to listen carefully and with concern to each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinion and voices heard. Through our behaviour policy, we model how perceived injustice can be peacefully challenged e.g. by teaching about inspirational figures such as Nelson Mandela, Mother Teresa and Martin Luther King. We also encourage regular visits and input to the curriculum from the fire and police services.

Our children make decisions together:



- We have a say in what happens through School Council, Worship Group and Pupil Voice
- We contribute to our topics and influence activities and changes to our school resources.

Rules and Law

OFSTED said '*Pupils are very well motivated and engaged in lessons. They concentrate well, listen attentively to their teachers and try their very best to succeed. They respond very well to questions and challenges and work very effectively both individually and as part of a group... Pupils are very proud of their school. They wear their uniforms smartly and are very respectful of the school environment.*' (Mellor St Mary OFSTED Report Dec 2014)

The importance of rules and laws, whether they be those that govern our class, school or our country, are referred to and consistently reinforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through Collective worship. Pupils are taught to have respect for the basis on which the law



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is made and how the law is applied in England. We aim to teach children the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect all of us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. 'Values for Life' are a basis for how we should live our lives and we use the example of Christ when dealing with behaviour that is not acceptable. In addition to this, planned visits from the police and fire service and appreciation of rules in sport are regular parts of our school calendar and help reinforce this message. We promote outstanding behaviour and this is sustained through our behaviour policy which is based on Jesus' teachings, thus ensuring that school rules and expectations are clear and fair and all our pupils understand that rules are there to protect us just as living under the rule of law protects all individuals in society.

Our children understand why rules are important:



- We develop fair rules for our classrooms through the Golden Rule Contract to develop order.
- We understand that rules are develop to support and prepare us for the world of work and life in general.

Individual Liberty

We actively promote and model individual liberty by supporting children to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence eg. through our Christian ethos, our way of treating people, by investing heavily in meeting the needs of all of the children, by providing equality of opportunity and by knowing and understanding the needs of all of the children. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and exercise them safely, for example through Online Safety, Life Education lessons and menu choices. Within school, children are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. We reassure children to take responsibility for their behaviour as well as knowing their rights eg. through linking rights with responsibilities and by having a fair and consistent approach to the behaviour policy. Whether it is promoted through choice of challenge, how they record or by individual participation in our extra-curricular activities, children are given the freedom to make choices. We welcome freedom of speech through pupil participation, while ensuring protection of vulnerable pupils and challenging stereotyping of others. We implement and actively promote a strong anti bullying culture and invite visitors into school to support our anti bullying policy.

OFSTED said *'Pupils say that poor behaviour is extremely rare. The school's records confirm this. There have been no exclusions, racist or discriminatory incidents in recent years and pupils say that 'everyone gets on really well here'. On the very rare occasions that pupils misbehave, the school acts appropriately and effectively, and this ensures there are no repeat incidents.* [7] (Mellor St Mary OFSTED Report Dec 2014)



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Our children demonstrate freedom for all:

- We make our own choices and understand the rewards or consequences of our own actions.

Mutual Respect: (also see Behaviour Policy)

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy revolves around our core values such as Love, Peace, Respect, Tolerance and Forgiveness. Pupils are expected to show mutual respect towards everything and everyone, regardless of individual differences, at all times. This is achieved through enhancing children's understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. We actively promote and model respect and tolerance by promoting respect for individual differences through Collective Worship, the RE curriculum, multicultural, multi-faith weeks and activities and through our ethos. All children, adults and visitors are expected to behave respectfully and we will challenge anybody who displays prejudicial or discriminatory behaviours. Pupils take part in worship and class discussions related to what this means and how it is shown. For our early years children, much of our curriculum is aimed at developing personal and social skills which enhance their learning, including knowing about similarities and differences between themselves and others and among families.

SIAMS inspection report *'The school's mission statement 'Where everyone belongs and does their best - with Jesus in our hearts, work and play' is evident on all documents and communication. This, together with its focus on three Christian values, 'peace, love and forgiveness', shapes the thinking of the school. Children speak with clarity and conviction about the Christian values they have learnt about and that are important for their lives.'* (October 2014)

Our children treat others as they want to be treated:



- We work together to help one another.
- We respect each other's physical space
- We respect each other's contributions to discussion
- We take on group roles to support the learning of our peers

Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

We will help pupils to acquire an understanding of and respect for their own and other cultures and ways of life. This is achieved by enhancing pupils' understanding through the curriculum, of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving pupils opportunities to experience such diversity. Worship, Assemblies and discussions involving identifying and combating discrimination, prejudices and prejudice-



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based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PHSCE. We organise visits to places of worship, openly discuss and celebrate the differences between people such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, gender and different family situations. We encourage our children to participate in a wide range of events and provide opportunities for pupils to serve the wider community in order to nurture tolerance and harmony, understanding and respect between all members of our society.



Our children enjoy learning about different faiths and cultures:

- We listen carefully to other peoples points of view.
- We investigate traditions, customs and religious practices and how they strengthen the multi cultural world we live in.
- We discuss how diversity makes us what we are today.

Actions Going Forward

1. ***To enhance links with different Faith Centres and develop our links with other schools of multi faiths and cultures.***
2. ***To develop Collective Worship to reflect Christian and British Values.***
3. ***To increase understanding of what "British Values" means amongst staff and children in the context of "Modern Britain".***

The statement will be reviewed every 3 years

Signed: *J. Embley-Peers* (Head teacher)

Signed: *P Skupski* (Chair of Governors)

Date: 09.01.2026

Next review: January 2029