



St. Edward's Church of England Academy

British Values Policy

**Approved by Trustees:
Last reviewed in: October 2023
Next review due by: October 2024
Non-Statutory Policy**



St Edward's
Church of England
Academy

The Vision for Education at our Academy

Jesus says, "I have come that they may have life and have it in all its fullness."

John 10:10

Our school vision is to ensure that God's aspiration for us all, as expressed in Jesus's words from John 10:10, is reflected in our aspiration for all of our children and staff to experience a full and rich life of learning, growing, helping, and caring for each other.

We are an inclusive community where all are welcomed, supported and celebrated for all they are and for all they do. Our Academy is a place of, and a space for, flourishing and fulfilment because here...

...we are 10:10 people.

As a Christian Academy, we live and breathe our core values:

- Respect
- Courage
- Hope
- Friendship

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Jeremiah 29:11

***"Be strong and courageous.
Do not
be afraid; do not be
discouraged for
the Lord your God will be with
you wherever you go."***

Deuteronomy 31:6



***"I no longer call you
Followers. Instead I have
called you friends."***

John 15:15

"Show proper respect to everyone"

1 Peter 2:17



St Edward's
Church of England
Academy

Contents

The Vision for Education within a Church of England Academy	2
St Edward's Church of England Vision	2
British Values Guidance	4
Aims	4
Opportunities we provide	4
Appendices	7



British Values Guidance

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." Galatians 5:22-23

What are British values?

The five British values are:

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Aims

St Edward's Church of England Academy is committed to celebrating the diversity of the UK. We aim to prepare pupils for life in modern Britain and to ensure that our school ethos, curriculum and approaches to teaching and learning reflect and promote British values. **See appendix (1).**

We recognise that these values are not exclusive to being British and that they have come to be accepted throughout the democratic world as the method of creating an orderly society, in which individual members can feel safe, valued and can contribute to for the good of themselves and others.

We recognise that British values do not give total liberty to individuals or tolerance of all views. Their declared aim is to combat extremism, and so they do not condone attitudes that are discriminatory and not inclusive or loving. **See appendix (2).**

We understand the role that our academy has in helping **prevent radicalisation** and supporting our pupils in developing a world view, recognising Britain's place within it.

Opportunities we provide for pupils to understand British values

We encourage pupils to:

- acknowledge, celebrate and commemorate national events and anniversaries related to key events in Britain's past e.g. Remembrance Sunday
- explore the rights enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child as part of our work as a 'Rights Respecting School'
- support a number of charities that are selected by them and arrange fundraising events e.g. Macmillan Coffee Morning, Children in Need, Cancer Research, Chernobyl Children's Charity
- make connections between British values and other curriculum subjects (for example Science, Geography, Maths and English curricula which all develop and explore key elements of all or some of the fundamental British Values)



- make connections between British values and worship themes (refer to Academy Collective Worship Rota) and through the RE scheme of learning by learning about the faiths of other people
- explore British values through spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) opportunities. **See appendix (3)**
- explore British values through the personal, social and health education (PSHE) and Relationships and Sex Education programme of study
- see democracy in action: School Council, Travel Ambassadors, Pupil Leadership team, Prefects, Anti Bullying ambassadors
- understand the importance of diversity and equality through our work as a Stonewall School and the International School Award and by using the 'Global Goals' as a framework for ensuring pupils become global citizens

Details about how each British value is embedded in our Academy See **appendix (4)**

British value	Some examples in practice
<p>Democracy <i>Democracy as we know it was not a feature of the autocratic Roman rule of Jesus' time on Earth. However, the rule of democracy is dependent on a belief that each person is important, valued and worthy if respect.</i></p>	<p><i>Many of our academy routines are built upon the concept of democracy. All pupils have opportunity as an individual, as a member of a form group and within subject departments, to influence decision making and to have a voice. They understand that they must use this voice responsibly.</i></p>
	<p><i>Pupils are regularly consulted both formally informally about how their school might be improved. They see the example that is set with staff working cooperatively with each other to make the school the best it can be.</i></p>
<p>The rule of law</p>	<p><i>Pupils in our school / academy understand the need for rules to make ours a happy and secure environment. Our behaviour policy is shared and understood and this provides a basis on which we discuss other laws and rules and how they apply. Ground rules are established in all areas of the curriculum and students are encouraged to see the reasons for them</i></p>
<p>Individual liberty</p>	<p><i>The rights of every pupil are at the centre of our ethos. However, pupils must also recognise the boundaries there must be too. Independent thinking and learning are encouraged and there are frequent opportunities for pupils to grow in maturity and independence as they move towards the sixth form. We place an emphasis on respecting difference and valuing creativity.</i></p>



Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Through our Christian values we encourage our pupils to show mutual respect. We recognise the importance of not only respecting one another but also of self-respect. We have a clear anti-bullying policy which emphasises the importance of us creating an environment both within school and the wider world in which individuals can feel safe and valued.

Our welcome for visitors is part of the school ethos as is the focus on each pupil as an 'ambassador' when they are out in the community.

Every individual is respected in our school and our actions towards one another reflect this.

We welcome difference and diversity and aim to create understanding of how this adds to the richness of our community.

We aim to do more than 'tolerate' those with different faiths and beliefs. We recognise the extent to which our own traditions and history have developed side by side and the rich cultural heritage that different world religions bring.

We believe that exploring and understanding other people's faiths and beliefs are rewarding experiences and help us understand our own faiths and beliefs better.

Approved and signed off by:

Principal: Mrs K Smith

Chair of Trustees: Mrs C Simmonds



Appendices:

(1) British values since 2014

Since **November 2014** all schools and academies in England, whether state or independent, have a duty to actively promote British values as part of their spiritual, moral, social and cultural education (SMSC). All schools must now have a clear strategy for embedding these values across the life of the school and show the effectiveness of this work.

See the full recommendation through the following link:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/380595/SMSC_Guidance_Maintained_Schools.pdf

(2) Ofsted

Ofsted inspects and comments on this area. The clear aim of promoting these values is stated as being to “tighten up the standards on pupil welfare to improve safeguarding, and the standards on spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils to strengthen the barriers to extremism”. It is believed that promotion of these values will ensure pupils become valued and rounded members of society who treat others with respect and tolerance, regardless of background, and so leave school better prepared for life in modern

(3) SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) evaluation schedule, September 2021

All church schools under Section 48 will have a SIAMS inspection. SMSC comes under **Strands 3,4 and 5 of the evaluation schedule.**

(4) British values and Christian values

Some academies choose to make a connection between British values and the schools identified Christian values. Here at St Edward’s CofE Academy, we have chosen to make this connection. However, we recognise that care should be taken to ensure that pupils do not come confused or blurred in their understanding between secular and explicitly religious values.