

Newchurch St Nicholas Primary School

BRITISH VALUES STATEMENT

Newchurch St Nicholas CE Primary School is required under section 78 of the Education Act (2002) to promote the spiritual, moral, mental and physical development of pupils. As of November 2013, schools also need promote fundamental British values as part of the school curriculum.

Newchurch St Nicholas CE Primary School is committed to serving its community. It recognises the multi-cultural, multi-faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom. It also understands the vital role it has in ensuring that groups or individuals within the school are not subjected to intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to unduly, or illegally, influence them.

It follows equal opportunities guidance which guarantees that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status, or similar. Newchurch St Nicholas CE Primary School is dedicated to preparing pupils for their adult life beyond the formal, examined curriculum and ensuring that it promotes and reinforces British values to all its pupils.

The DfE has suggested that pupils are taught about fundamental British values during their spiritual, moral and cultural (SMSC) learning. Pupils are expected to display knowledge of the fundamental aspects of British values. At Newchurch St Nicholas CE Primary School these values are reinforced regularly and we are currently developing an audit of all such teaching and learning opportunities. The government has outlined their expectations of these values, stating that pupils should:

- understand the democratic process and how citizens can have a say in decision making.
- Recognise the advantages to living under the rule of law and how law is essential for a safe society.
- See that there is a separation of power and why it exists.

- understand the reasons for accountability of institutions and why courts maintain independence.
- Know why freedom of religion protects all faiths, as well as those with no faith.
- Accept that people who hold different religious beliefs should be tolerated and not be discriminated against.
- value the importance of identifying and combatting extremism.

Newchurch St Nicholas CE Primary School does not have to promote or teach any particular belief, view or way of life that contradicts our outlook or ethos; however, we will not promote discrimination, or accept intolerance against people or groups, on the basis of their belief, opinion or background.

Democracy
At the start of each school year our pupils decide on their class charter and the rights and responsibilities associated with these. All of the children in each class contribute to the drawing up of the charter. These are individual to classrooms and all children sign them. Pupils also have numerous opportunities to have their views heard through pupil questionnaires and the pupil-elected school council. The school council meets regularly to discuss issues raised in class council meetings.
The rule of law
The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced. Children are taught the values and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Children are taught the importance of putting right the poor choices they have made and as a Christian community we embrace a culture of forgiveness at Newchurch St Nicholas Primary School. Where appropriate, the rule of law is reinforced by informal visits from the local police and fire services.

Individual freedom
Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. Our pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for young children to make choices safely, for example through our online safety and PSHE lessons.
Mutual respect
Pupils at Newchurch St Nicholas CE Primary School learn that their behaviours have an effect both on their rights and the rights of others in school. All members of our school community are encouraged to treat each other with respect. Our Play Leaders lead by example with our younger children when they support our welfare staff at lunchtimes. They model expected behaviours, treat their peers with respect and explain these important messages of respect in their actions for others to copy. It is also expected by all staff that our Year 6 pupils lead by example for younger members of our school community by modelling respect for their peers and any adult within school. They are reminded that others will look up to them, both in and out of school.
Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs
Newchurch St Nicholas CE Primary School is situated in an area which is not greatly culturally diverse, therefore we place an increased emphasis on promoting diversity with our children. Both our RE and PSHE teaching reinforces this. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and school. As a result of being members of Lancashire's Service Level Agreement, children are given the opportunity to visit places of worship that are important to different faiths and experience visits from people of different faiths and cultures.