



British Values Statement

This statement was reviewed by the Governing Body in January 2022
This statement will be reviewed by January 2026
(unless any changes are necessary prior to this date)

BELONGING | BELIEVING | ACHIEVING

“You are the light of the world.” Matthew 5:14

PURPOSE

The government set out its definition of British Values in the 2023 Prevent Strategy <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance/prevent-duty-guidance-for-england-and-wales-accessible> and in a publication from the DfE (2014).

AIMS

To ensure pupils at St Matthew's CE Primary School understand the importance of respect and leave school fully prepared for life in modern Britain, equipped with the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to be able to function in a diverse society, we will promote the basic British Values of:

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

Democracy

Pupils demonstrate this by being taught about being fair, learning about democracy and how citizens can influence decision making through the democratic process. Our Junior Leadership teams and other democratically voted for roles illustrate democracy at work. Children are encouraged to express their views and to articulate justifications for them in a positive and respectful manner. We ensure that our children are aware of the damage that extreme views and behaviour can have and know what they must do if they come into contact with them, in order to keep themselves and others safe. The School Council enables the voices of all pupils

to be heard within a democratic process. Children are encouraged to make choices knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment.

The Rule of Law

Linked to the school version, staff and pupils follow the school's Behaviour Policy and the school's Golden Rules:

- I am learning
- I am being safe
- am being respectful and kind
- I am being responsible and honest

Visitors to the school and trips to local places of historical significance are used to ensure pupils have an understanding of the rule of law in life outside of school.

Individual Liberty and Mutual Respect

Through all aspects of the curriculum, Collective Worship and daily life, the school ethos of Belonging, Believing, Achieving ensures that we respect everyone and we respect ourselves. Pupils and parents are welcomed to the school by meeting our Head Inclusion and Well-being of School for Inclusion for an induction meeting. Class teachers ensure classmates welcome and help the children settle into school life at St Mathew's. Children have opportunities to read, play and learn together in different areas of the curriculum. They reflect on right and wrong by discussing their actions with members of staff in line with the Behaviour Policy.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

We are a multicultural and inclusive school – we value all faiths, people's religious beliefs and people who have no religious faith. Pupils are taught that people having different faiths or beliefs to their own should be accepted and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour. We provide opportunities for pupils to explore their own cultures and have a clear understanding and appreciation of a wide range of cultural influences that have shaped modern Britain.

Resources, including set texts, reflect the whole of society, ensuring that all pupils can see themselves and develop high aspirations. At St Matthew's School all adults will model respect for pupils. Everyone is expected to promote and reward positive behaviour and attitudes based on our school vision, treating all people as valued individuals. Our Behaviour and Attitudes Policy ensures positive conduct and actions are acknowledged in a variety of ways:

- Verbal praise
- Positive reinforcement from staff
- Entry in the Book of Praise

- House Points
- Stickers
- Informing parents verbally (phone/email)
- Bronze, silver, gold behaviour badges
- Gold awards from the Acting Headteacher
- Class recognition of achievement
- Lunchtime raffle tickets (written by adult issuing it)
- Leadership opportunities

Christian Values

Our school Christian Values help the school to live out its vision on a daily basis, permeating through every aspect of school life.

<p>“You are the light of the world.” Matthew 5:14</p>		
BELONGING	BELIEVING	ACHIEVING
Koinonia Compassion Patience Forgiveness	Humility Trust Peace Hope	Wisdom Thankfulness Endurance Service

Christian Values are promoted within the school’s Religious Education Scheme of Work and LDBS Syllabus and are the focus in the daily Collective Worship timetable. These values will also be included in planning across the curriculum where relevant, in order to provide the children with meaningful reference points. The provision of this context will allow the children to deepen their understanding of these values and the importance of the role they play in our lives.

Please also see:

Behaviour and Attitudes Policy

Preventing Radicalisation and Extremism Policy