



# St. Gregory's Catholic High School

## BRITISH VALUES

### **Monitoring**

The implementation of the policy will be monitored by the Assistant Headteacher Pastoral

### **Evaluation**

The policy will be reviewed annually by the Assistant Headteacher Pastoral and the Senior Leadership Team prior to the submission of the policy to Governors' Community Committee for scrutiny and recommendation to the Full Governing Body for approval.

### **Policy Review Dates:**

**Date last approved by Full Governing Body:** December 2017

**Date submitted to Governors' Committee:** 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019

**Date submitted to Full Governing Body:** 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019

**Review Frequency:** Every 2 years

**Start date for policy review:** July 2021

## Policy Statement

St. Gregory's is a Catholic school which seeks to live out the values of Jesus Christ. We promote these values by our words and deeds, and Catholic doctrine and practice therefore permeates every aspect of our school's activity. We provide a Catholic curriculum, which is broad and balanced, recognizing that every pupil is unique and created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27). Our curriculum is designed to enable every pupil to discern their vocation and to be well-equipped to follow it as active citizens in service to the world. Catholic Religious Education is the 'core of the curriculum' (Pope John Paul II) and the foundation of the entire educational process. We also provide a wide range of extra-curricular activities and strong pastoral support. We incorporate democratic principles, value the rule of law, support individual liberty and foster a community in which different faiths and beliefs are respected.

### 1. Legal framework

This policy will have consideration for the following guidance:

- Ofsted, School Inspection Handbook, 2015.
- DfE, Improving the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development of pupils, 2013.
- This policy is carried out in conjunction with our following other policies:
- Behaviour Policy
- Anti-Terrorism Policy

### 2. Roles and responsibilities

- St. Gregory's Catholic High School understands the importance of promoting British values through a comprehensive and unprejudiced curriculum.
- The Headteacher will ensure that all staff are aware of the requirement to uphold British values through the methods outlined in this policy, and will ensure that the appropriate procedures are in place to carry out these methods.
- Teachers and support staff will ensure that their lessons are inclusive of, and sensitive to, the fundamental British values.
- Pupils are expected to treat each other and staff with respect, in line with the school's ethos and its Behaviour Policy.

### 3. The key British Values

The Government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. The five key British Values are:

#### a. **Democracy**

- At St. Gregory's Catholic High School, pupils have numerous opportunities to have their views heard through pupil questionnaires, pupil voice interviews, suggestions box and the pupil-elected school council
- Our pupils are encouraged to have an input into what and how they learn to instil an understanding of democracy for their future
- We use opportunities such as general or local elections to hold mock elections to offer pupils the chance to engage in politics from an early age

#### b. **The rule of law**

- St. Gregory's Catholic High School has a high regard for the laws that govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Through the pupil voice opportunities and our young leaders, pupils are involved in the creation of school rules to inspire them with this understanding
- At St. Gregory's Catholic High School pupils are taught these values and the reasons behind laws, whether they govern the class, the school or the country, that are essential for their well-being and safety. Pupils are encouraged to engage in healthy debate in class on the matter to encourage recognition of the importance of the law
- We enable pupils to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England

- Encourage pupils to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely

**c. Individual liberty**

- At St. Gregory's Catholic High School we foster a safe and supportive environment where pupils are actively encouraged to make choices. Whether it is choosing a challenging task or an extra- curricular club, pupils have the freedom to base their choices on their interests
- Pupils are taught about their rights and personal freedoms and are encouraged and advised on how to exercise these safely, for instance through our teaching on e-safety and PSD lessons

**d. Mutual respect**

- Respect forms a core pillar of St. Gregory's Catholic High School ethos. Pupils are treated with respect and learn to treat each other and staff with respect
- This is reinforced through our Behaviour Policy and displays throughout the school promoting mutual respect

**e. Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs**

- St. Gregory's Catholic High School acknowledges that tolerance is achieved through pupils' knowledge and understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and the opportunity for pupils to experience such diversity
- Throughout the year, form times and assemblies focus on bullying, with reference to prejudice based bullying, and discussion is encouraged
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs is supported by the RE and PSD curriculum
- We encourage our pupils from different faiths or religions to share their knowledge with their peers to enhance their learning
- Further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling pupils to acquire an appreciation of, and respect for, their own and other cultures eg. discussion of fasting in different faiths

**4. Staff Training**

- At St. Gregory's Catholic High School staff are made aware of their responsibilities in terms of British values during their induction
- If deemed necessary, staff will be offered the opportunity for further training on upholding the British Values Policy