

Hurst Knoll St James' CE Primary School

Inspiring Faith and Learning for Life



Christian Values and British Values Policy

Written in conjunction with the Manchester Diocese Board of Education Guidelines for Christian and British Values in Church of England Schools 2016

Faith means being sure of the things we hope for. And faith means knowing that something is real even if we do not see it. People who lived in the past became famous because of faith. It is by faith we understand that the whole world was made by God's command. This means that what we see was made by something that cannot be seen.

Hebrews 11

Introduction

At Hurst Knoll St James the teaching of Christian values offers a spiritual and moral basis for the development of human wholeness and a sure foundation for personal and social values based on the Ten Commandments, the person and ministry of Jesus Christ, the understanding of the Trinity and the history of the Church. HKSJ offers a distinctive language for understanding life and interpreting human experience which is in line with and linked to British values.

Christian values at HKSJ

The changeless nature of Christian values rooted in the Bible, the life of Christ and the history of the Church, is central to the ethos and culture of our school. At the same time, we recognise and understand that we need to pay attention to the different out-workings of these values given our changing world, multi-cultural and multi-faith country, local community, and the fact that our values are not exclusive to the Christian faith but relevant to all faiths and backgrounds. These are values for life.

HKSJ is therefore tasked with bringing a distinctive understanding to the consideration of our Christian values of trust, hope, forgiveness and justice. A programme of learning was introduced in 2014 which offers our pupils an alternative perspective to that sometimes presented in popular culture. Much work in this area is already undertaken through Religious Education, Collective Worship, Worship and Reflection areas, wall displays which include non-negotiables to ensure there is a sense of awe and wonder, the Behaviours for Learning Policy and thematic approaches (Cornerstones) across the curriculum. **(see supporting statement II)**

British values at HKSJ

The British approach to multiculturalism, concern about national identity, political debate about what it is that various ethnic communities have in common and ministerial interventions have contributed to what is an on-going debate within our school, local community and nationally.

Since November 2014 when the teaching of fundamental British values became statutory HKSJ has been actively promoting and teaching the values of democracy, rule of law, liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs as part of the pupils spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. **(see supporting statement I)**

HKSJ Christian values and British values

In September 2016 HKSJ's four school Christian values were linked with the fundamental British values to:

- Ensure our programme learning about Christian values leads to the promotion of British values thus ensuring comprehensive fulfilment of what is legally required.
- Acknowledge the changeless nature of Christian values rooted in the Bible, and to show the synthesis between Christian values and British values.
- Demonstrate that British values do not contradict Christian values. A key part of Church of England education as it articulates the principle of inclusivity.

- Show how British values can be easily and successfully integrated into a curriculum based on Christian values



The synthesis of Christian and British values

HKSJ offers a spiritual and moral basis for the development of human wholeness, and a sure foundation for personal and social values based on the ministry of Christ. We offer a distinctive language for understanding life and interpreting human experience. We teach the right balance to promote our fundamental Christian values leading to the promotion of British values.

Our British values do not contradict our Christian values. Just as our Christian values underpin all aspects of our church school life, so the attitude of British values is embedded across our school life and within the curriculum.

The demand to promote British values does not weaken our Christian values but supports our distinctive ethos and to builds on its foundation. We continue to speak explicitly about the Christian faith and underpin the school life with Biblical concepts. Christian values and British values are harmoniously embedded across all aspects of school life and within the curriculum, teaching and learning. Teachers and pupils speak about values explicitly and choose examples that do not contradict the attitudes of either Christian or British values.

See the following supporting statements:

- I. Teaching British Values – Promoting British Values at Hurst Knoll St James' CE Primary School***
- II. The contribution of RE and Collective Worship to the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development of our pupils***

Agreed and Adopted by the Governing Body Spring Term 2017