**British Values Statement**

At Holy Family Catholic Primary School we take our responsibility to prepare children for life in modern Britain very seriously. We ensure that the fundamental British Values are introduced, discussed and lived out through the ethos and work of the school. We value the diverse ethnic backgrounds of all pupils, families and the wider community and undertake a variety of events and lessons to celebrate these.

Underpinning this are a range of curriculum areas which have strong links to British values and provide a vehicle for furthering understanding of these concepts. In particular, our RE and PSHCE (Personal, Social, Health & Citizenship Education) lessons provide excellent opportunities to deepen and develop understanding. Children embrace these concepts with enthusiasm and demonstrate a good understanding of their application to their own lives.

In Foundation Stage, there is a strong focus on PSED (Physical, Social and Emotional Development). As children enter Foundation Stage, they are encouraged to make friends and become independent, using their own initiative to choose what to play taking responsibility for getting their own snack and tidying up after themselves. Furthermore, children are introduced to class rules and routines straight away so that they understand what is expected from them in class. The topics covered in Foundation Stage, such as Myself and All About Me, enable pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self- confidence. Throughout the year they also explore different cultural traditions including; Judaism, Hinduism, Islam and Chinese New Year where children can begin to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures.

In KS1, children will study the work of significant British individuals including Sir Isaac Newton and Florence Nightingale. They learn about the contributions they have made to British and International society. Children also learn about the actions of British soldiers during World War 1 and how we still pay respect to their sacrifice for freedom today.

In Key Stage 2, children study significant periods of British History, developing an understanding of early British civilizations and their contributions to modern day life.

Whilst studying the Victorians the children acquire a broad general knowledge of the life of a Victorian child and the differences between this and modern day life.

Whilst learning about the Industrial Revolution, children gain an understanding of the development of industry across Britain.

Through an in depth study of a significant historical figure, children learn to recognise the impact certain individuals have had in the history of Britain and the positive contributions they have made.

Studying Monarchs, past and present, encourages respect for traditions and values. Children gain a deeper understanding of the development of the modern Royal Family.

In Religious Education children are taught to respect those of a different faith. Our collective worship and PSHCE lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others. Every class prepares a class assembly covering a wide range of themes and topics that encompass all aspects of life in Britain – then and now.

Holy Family School Council are elected using the democratic voting system. They attend meetings to share ideas and discuss new initiatives that they think will enhance the learning environment for all children attending our school. They are instrumental in the organisation of school events such as Anti-Bullying Week, Walk to School Week and the Macmillan Coffee Morning. They have input in whole school assemblies.

The school makes considerable efforts to ensure children have exposure to a wide experience beyond their local community, during which the concepts of tolerance, fairness, democracy, rule of law and sportsmanship are shown through, for example, sporting events, a range of educational visits and use of outdoor education centres. World events are highlighted and celebrated – the Queen’s Golden Jubilee, the Olympics and Paralympics, the World Cup to name but a few. These real life situations provide our children with an excellent platform to embrace and value difference.

Our school motto is shared at every opportunity:

Following in Jesus’ footsteps

We pray together

We play together

We learn together

