



“We come to a Roman Catholic School and so believe that Jesus was born, died and rose again for everyone. We aim to help, encourage and show God’s way to our families, making sure that our Catholic traditions and faith are kept alive. Each year at school, we learn a little bit more about our faith so that we can all grow to love God and each other more.”

At St. Edmund’s, we seek at all times to be a witness to Jesus Christ. We remember this when putting our policies into practice.

Promoting British Values

The DfE have recently reinforced the need “to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.”

At St Edmund’s these values are reinforced regularly through our mission.

Our Section 48 Inspection (June2013) found:

“Pupils say they feel exceptionally safe and valued in the school and parents agree. Older pupils act as ‘buddies’ to younger children helping them to feel safe. Pupils are proud of their school and their responsibilities, such as prefects and buddies, for which they undergo a selection process with written applications..”

Democracy

- We encourage all of our children to get involved with the running of their school and provide them with opportunities to show how they can influence decision making giving them a strong voice in the school through the Chaplaincy team and Junior Leadership Team.
- Members of our councils go through a democratic process whereby they apply for the position and have to think about the contribution they will make to our school community.
- Our staff are excellent role models who develop strong, respectful relationships with one another, the children and parents. We encourage an open door policy to discuss any concerns and work together to resolve them.
- We provide opportunities for our children to see how democracy works within school and the wider community through invitations to our local MP and by following local and national elections as well as Papal elections historically.

Rule of Law

- At St Edmund’s, our rules and expectations are based all around the Gospel values; tolerance, respect, kindness, sharing, responsibility, courtesy, perseverance and honesty.
- We discuss with our children the need for rules and boundaries. Laws provide us with protection, they help us to take responsibility for our actions and realise that there are consequences, both negative and positive.
- We ensure our Gospel values are at the heart of what we teach.

- Our expectations for behaviour are clear and consistent across school. We work closely with the children so they understand their rights and their responsibilities for the choices that they make.
- We promote respect for those who enforce the law and encourage a strong link with our local PCSO.

Individual Liberty

- Through our Mission statement and Gospel values, we encourage our children to take responsibility for their own actions but to also expect to be treated with respect from others.
- We do not tolerate bullying of any kind and this is dealt with quickly.
- We provide a safe and supportive environment where a positive growth mindset is enabled and our children are encouraged to be independent in their thinking and learning.
- We provide guidance on how to make safe choices through eg: E-safety week, whole school worship, road safety, Bikeability, swimming tuition, our SMSC Curriculum and our Religious Education.

Mutual Respect

- Respect is a key part of our expectations for behaviour and is known and understood by all of our children. Children are encouraged to demonstrate respect for everyone they meet and to respect the environment in which we live through our Forest School and St Edmund's Big Plant.
- Children learn that how we treat one another has a direct impact on the way we in turn are treated.
- If children are not showing respect for one another we encourage others to speak out and help others to see why their actions are inappropriate.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

- As a Catholic community, children are reminded of their place in a culturally diverse society. This is achieved through our Religious Education Curriculum and the spiritual life of our school.
- We actively celebrate diversity and equality.
- We actively promote respect for individual differences.
- Our class and whole school worships promote the diversity of society and the rights of each person to be respected and valued equally regardless of ability, gender, faith, heritage or race.
- Through our expectations of behaviour, we challenge prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour of any kind.

Our other faith work where each year group learns about another faith and their beliefs allows the children to compare and contrast cultures and beliefs and promotes tolerance and respect for others.