



# Promoting British Values

## Policy Statement



## Rationale

We promote the British values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

This is consistent with our statement which is as follows:

The Latin motto of St Aidan's Catholic Academy is 'Deus Lux nostra' - God is our Light! It means that God will be with you, enlightening you with his wisdom. This also links closely with our Mission which is 'We believe that God has created each person to celebrate life to the full'. This mission statement is based on John 10:10.

So we will:

- Put the learning and progress of pupils first.
- Inspire them to be happy, healthy, confident, unique and tolerant individuals who flourish and achieve.
- Guide all to fulfil their potential spiritually, academically and socially.
- Promote their responsibility and resilience, diligence and determination, independence and enterprise.
- Encourage their originality and creativity.
- Care for them in a safe and equal environment.

## Purposes

We promote British values because we want to play our part in:

- Perpetuating and encouraging full involvement in democracy.
- Strengthening the legal principles of justice and fairness.
- Protecting individual freedoms.
- Fostering positive relationships based on respect and courtesy.
- Ensuring acceptance of cultural and religious diversity.
- Protecting our pupils from radicalisation.

## Guidelines

We promote responsible participation in democratic processes by:

- Encouraging involvement with elections for UK youth parliament.
- Encouraging participation in local and national elections for those in 6<sup>th</sup> form eligible to vote.
- Fair and open voting process for pupils and staff to elect our head boy and his deputies each year.
- Teaching about the development and process of democracy in history and through PDE sessions.
- Using pupil voice as another form of data to help inform school improvement.
- Sharing tasks of responsibility in lessons.
- Providing effective countermeasures to attempts to radicalise our pupils.
- Participation in our whole school debate programme.



We promote respect for and adherence to the rule of law by:

- Providing a safe and happy environment in which the pupils' needs come first, e.g. Strict adherence to health and safety guidelines in subjects such as science and design technology.
- Fair and just application of our Achievement, Behaviour and Attendance Policy.
- Encouraging respect for rules and authority in sport and other team activities.
- Teaching aspects of British law in history, PDE, RE, ICT, Law, Economics, Politics and Business.
- Assemblies led by colleagues from The Police.

We promote individual liberty and equal opportunities by:

- Personifying the values of Deus Lux nostra.
- Giving freedom of expression without fear of ridicule.
- Encouraging independent learning in all lessons and creativity in drama, PE, Music, Art, DT, Media and English.
- Giving choice of tasks.
- Providing forums for a discussion, debate and development of ideas and beliefs in lessons and as part of our whole school debating programme.
- Differentiating support for individuals so that no one is left behind.
- Improving self-esteem.
- Personalising subject choices in KS4 and KS5.
- Protecting pupils from discrimination and bullying.

We promote mutual respect by:

- Providing a safe and happy environment in which the pupils come first.
- Including everyone, regardless of race, creed, sexuality, class or ability.
- Fair and just application of our behaviour for learning policy which is based on praise over criticism.
- Our well-developed rewards system.
- Our commitment to fostering good relationships everywhere in school.
- Our zero tolerance of bullying, discrimination and inappropriate language and behaviour.
- Fundraising for causes across the world.
- Responsible and considerate peer assessment, group presentations and all collaborative work.
- Celebrating success in assemblies and Awards Evenings.

We promote tolerance of different faiths and beliefs by:

- Teaching about world religions in RE.
- Advocating tolerance in lessons, assemblies, reflection time and all other school activities
- Accepting differences in beliefs, e.g. alternative views of the origins of the universe in science
- Welcoming new pupils of all faiths and none.



## Policy Review

This policy document will be reviewed in March 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Emmerson', written in a cursive style.

Signed by:  
Dr C Emmerson, Chair of Governors  
March 2018