



St Mary's Catholic School

British Values Audit

Spring 2019

British Values	Gospel Values	Scripture reference/Catechesis
Democracy	Integrity and humility	<i>'Christians are called to obey the law and respect the governing authorities' (Romans 13:5)</i>
The rule of law	Justice, Truth and Peace	<i>'Blessed are those who act justly, who always do what is right'. (Psalm 106:3), For God is not a God of disordered but of peace.' (1 Corinthians 14:33)</i>
Mutual respect	Dignity and Purity	<i>We all have equal status as we are all made in the 'So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them' (Genesis 1: 27)</i>
Individual liberty	Compassion and Gentleness	Catechism 1738 - <i>The right to the exercise of freedom, especially in moral and religious matters, is an inalienable requirement of the dignity of the human person. This right must be recognized and protected by civil authority within the limits of the common good and public order.³²</i>
Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs	Faithfulness Forgiveness and mercy Service and sacrifice	<p>Vatican 2 - DIGNITATIS HUMANAЕ</p> <p><i>2. This Vatican Council declares that the human person has a right to religious freedom. This freedom means that all men are to be immune from coercion on the part of individuals or of social groups and of any human power, in such wise that no one is to be forced to act in a manner contrary to his own beliefs, whether privately or publicly, whether alone or in association with others, within due limits.</i></p> <p><i>The council further declares that the right to religious freedom has its foundation in the very dignity of the human person as this dignity is known through the revealed word of God and by reason itself.(2) This right of the human person to religious freedom is to be recognized in the constitutional law whereby society is governed and thus it is to become a civil right.</i></p>

British and Gospel Values

St Mary's Catholic School

At St Mary's, we encourage all students and staff to have an overarching attitude directed to the Gospel and British values which are the fundamental principles on which our school stands upon.

As a community we are diverse in Culture and Ethnicity which we know adds not only to the necessity of acceptance of others, mutual respect and tolerance of others but to the beauty of what it truly means to love others.

A scripture passage found in *Matthew 22: 36 – 40* speaks about the greatest commandments given from Jesus Christ on which the Gospel values stem from. One of the commandments is:

'to love your neighbour as yourself'.

In the New Testament, it speaks about how *'Christians are called to obey the law and respect the governing authorities'* (*Romans 13:5*). Jesus taught the need for law and obedience, however he emphasised that this was without direction or purpose, if it was not to look to the world and people in it and ensure that all are accepted, loved and have the opportunity to live their life to the fullest (*John 10:10*). From the Bishop's Conference document *'Christ at the Centre'* (CATC) it states that *'Catholic schools should exhibit the following four characteristics which promote the permanent principles of Catholic social teaching: the dignity of human life, the common good, subsidiarity, and solidarity.'*

Therefore as a Catholic school we have a responsibility to not only teach the Gospel and British values but to encourage them whole hearted with full integrity as it is at the core of everything we should be striving for in a Catholic School. We want to ensure that the *'Golden Rule, treat others how you would want to be treated'* (*Matthew 7:12*) is followed in all aspects of our school Ethos and teaching,

We commit as a Catholic school in Britain, that we have a duty to ensure the students and staff of St Mary's will 'cultivate virtues and form personal values rooted in the Gospel of Christ' (CATC, Bishops Conference), so the students grow into well rounded young people committed to the promotion of British values in order to 'develop an understanding of their communal obligations, personal aspirations and their role as citizens in society and the world' (CATC, Bishops Conference), and as a result preparing them for life in modern Britain, striving to 'achieve excellence for all'.