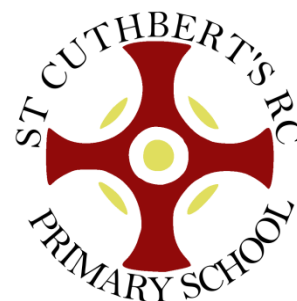


ST CUTHBERT'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

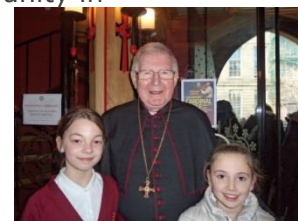
The Department for Education state there is a need "to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs."



We are a Catholic School which seeks to live out the values of Jesus Christ. We promote these values through our words and deeds. Catholic doctrine and practice permeates every aspect of the school's activity. We provide a Catholic curriculum, which is broad and balanced, recognising that every pupil is unique and is created in the image of God (*Genesis 1:27*). Our curriculum is designed to enable every pupil to discern their vocation and to be well equipped to follow it as active citizens in service to the world.

Catholic Religious Education is the 'core of the core curriculum'. (*Pope John Paul II*) and the foundation of the entire educational process. We also provide a wide range of extra-curricular activities and strong pastoral support. We incorporate democratic principles, value the rule of law, support individual liberty and foster a community in which different faiths and beliefs are respected.

At St Cuthbert's RC Primary School's we are committed to these values and regularly reinforce them in the following ways



Individual Liberty

- Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment.
- We encourage students to see themselves as unique individuals able to make a unique contribution to building community.
- Students are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights, responsibilities and personal freedoms and receive advice about how to exercise these safely, for example through our exploration of E-Safety in computing.
- As a Rights Respecting School we have embedded the ethos and understanding of the 'United Nations Rights of the Child.' Our children recognise that responsibilities go hand in hand with rights.
- Class collective worships are planned and lead by the children giving the children opportunities to reflect.
- Our School Council meets regularly to share the ideas and opinions of the children in school. School Council has been instrumental in many fund raising days but also in decision making such as school menu choices and playground markings.
- Students are encouraged to be independent in their learning taking responsibility for reviewing work against success criteria.

• **Tolerance of Those With Different Faiths And Beliefs**

- Our core value of Respect ensures tolerance of those who have different faiths and beliefs.
- St Cuthbert's RC Primary School enhances pupils' understanding of different faiths and beliefs through religious education, P.S.H.E. work and visits to other places of worship to deepen understanding of different celebrations and beliefs.

- In our 'Come and See' religious curriculum we dedicate 2 weeks to learn about other faiths. These are studied in depth, with visitors being invited in to our school to enrich and extend understanding.
- We look at how Jesus encouraged tolerance by sharing stories such as The Good Samaritan and Zaccheus.

Democracy

- Pupils are always listened to by adults and are taught to listen carefully and with concern to each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard.
- The Head teacher visits classes to ask children their views on our school and how we can make it better. These views are then incorporated into the School Improvement plan.
- Pupils also have the opportunity to air their opinions and ideas through our School Council and questionnaires.
- The elections of the School Council members are based solely on pupil votes, reflecting our British electoral system and demonstrating democracy in action.
- The school council often meet with visitors and staff to discuss ideas and make decisions. School council were an active part of the interview process for our Head Teacher they planned and asked a range of questions, after this they expressed their opinions to the governors.

Mutual Respect

- Our school mission statement reinforces the importance of following Gospel Values.
- We follow the words of Jesus each day 'love one another as I have loved you'.
- Respect is one of the core values of our school. The pupils know and understand that it is expected and imperative that respect is shown to everyone, whatever differences we may have.
- Our school is committed to developing respect for other cultures. We believe that this respect is fostered through our international curriculum. We have strong international links which incorporate reciprocal visits allowing the children opportunities to meet with other children and adults from different countries and cultures.



- Our creative curriculum incorporates a range of cross-curricular opportunities to learn about, and thereby develop greater tolerance of, and respect for, other cultures.
- Our Mini Vinnies and Junior Mission Team work closely with the parish to support and develop links with the community.
- The Mini Vinnies, Junior Mission Team and School Council, work to support charities in the local community such as collecting for the local food bank, for country wide charities such as the British Heart Foundation and also Worldwide through Cafod projects and collections.
- We have playground leaders that actively promote good relationships and social skills, through supporting and encouraging 'positive play.'



- We have a SLA with Viva and have created strong links with them to promote social interaction and emotional well-being of all pupils. This also helps children to consider the effects of their actions and help them to become responsible citizens that show respect for others.
- Good manners are expected and rewarded in the weekly awards assemblies.
- We work in partnership with local schools and have a very strong cluster group that allows us to share expertise and experiences. We take an active role in the St John's School Cluster.

The Rule of Law

- The importance of laws whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced.
- Our children have developed their understanding of the Monarchy through a recent visit by the Lord Lieutenant Mrs Sue Snowdon.
- Each class sets its own rules (class charters) at the beginning of the year and displays them in class.
- Our pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws. We have a traffic light behaviour code in school that helps the children understand responsibilities and consequences when laws or rules are broken.
- Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service help reinforce this message.
- In school our Play Leaders work with younger children during playtimes to promote play and communication in a positive manner.
- We learn about the rules of the 10 commandments and the Beatitudes as a way of living life in a positive manner and recognise how behaviour influences society.

Behaviour Awards

At St Cuthbert's RC Primary School we believe in rewarding good behaviour to incentivise others. We have a 'golden nugget' system that allows children to earn rewards for good behaviour. We also have a termly tea party with the Head Teacher for those children that have shown outstanding behaviour or effort.

Remembrance

At St Cuthbert's RC School we believe it is important to commemorate events in history so that the children are aware of, and understand the importance of the past in shaping the future. Therefore we take part in Remembrance Day services and more recently the VE day celebrations. This has also allowed our children to spend time with the older generation and encourage learning, understanding and mutual respect.



Election Fever.

The recent elections offered an ideal opportunity for the children to see democracy in action. Year 3 children formed parties and wrote their manifestos which they shared with the rest of the school. All across school the children were given the chance to vote for the party that impressed them the most. This then led to a speech of thanks for the support given and a promise to lead and implement the promises made. Meanwhile the Year 6 children were learning about the actual parties and discovering which party suited their beliefs most. The children were engaged and interested, recognising the importance of voting and becoming active citizens within their country. This helped the children learn about current affairs, democracy and brought the general election to life.

