



Theale C.E. Primary School

And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment. And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." Mark 12: v 30-31

"I have come that they may have life and that they may have it more abundantly." John 10:10

British Values Policy

At Theale C.E. Primary, we ensure that, through our Christian ethos, vision, values, rules, curriculum and teaching, we promote tolerance, respect, and understanding for all cultures, faiths, and lifestyles. We recognise our duty to prepare our children for life in modern Britain while ensuring their safety and well-being. By celebrating the diverse backgrounds of our pupils and families, we enrich our community and instil in our children the importance of living harmoniously in a diverse society.

At the core of this is our commitment to British Values, which align with our Christian foundation and inform the way we develop our curriculum and school environment. We promote tolerance, respect, and appreciation for the differences within our community and the wider world, underpinned by a broad curriculum that emphasises British history, culture, and values.

General Overview

Theale C.E. Primary School is committed to serving its community and surrounding areas, understanding the importance of promoting British values in a multi-cultural, multi-faith society. Our school plays a pivotal role in nurturing these values and fostering an inclusive atmosphere, where every child is valued and empowered.

Through our curriculum and wider provision, we aim to:

- Develop self-knowledge, self-esteem, and self-confidence in our pupils, rooted in Christian values.
- Enable pupils to distinguish right from wrong and respect the civil and criminal law of England.
- Encourage responsibility for actions, initiative, and the desire to contribute positively to society.
- Provide broad knowledge of public institutions and services in England.
- Foster respect and tolerance between different cultural and religious traditions, helping pupils appreciate their own and others' cultures.
- Promote respect for all individuals regardless of background, belief, or identity.
- Encourage respect for democracy and support active participation in democratic processes, promoting an understanding of how laws are made and applied.
- Educate pupils about the protection offered by the rule of law and how living under it ensures their well-being and safety.
- Promote the freedom to choose and hold different beliefs while upholding respect for others' faiths or beliefs.
- Combat discrimination and actively teach the importance of identifying and addressing it in all forms.

Democracy

At Theale C.E. Primary, we value democracy and its role in society. We provide children with opportunities to understand how they can influence decision-making processes, teaching them to appreciate the importance of every voice.

- **School Council:** Pupils are given the chance to make their voices heard through our democratic School Council. Elections are held where pupils vote for their representatives, learning about the electoral process. In addition, through smart council, our weekly class meetings allow opportunities for debate and regular votes to enable student voice.
- **Pupil Voice:** These forums enable children to discuss important matters in the school.
- **Curriculum Integration:** Democracy is explored through subjects such as history and life skills, where children learn about the democratic process in the UK and how it compares to other forms of government globally.

Individual Liberty

We encourage pupils to make informed choices and decisions within a safe and supportive environment. Our school promotes individual liberty by teaching children about their rights and how to exercise them responsibly.

- **Roles and Responsibilities:** Pupils take on responsibilities within the school, such as being librarian, prefects and house captains in addition to class and Year 6 jobs such as play leading.
- **Safe Choices:** We educate pupils on making safe choices through life skills including lessons on E-Safety, teaching them how to exercise their freedoms with responsibility and care.
- **Empowerment Through Choice:** Pupils are empowered to make choices in their learning, participation in extracurricular clubs, and gifted, talented and enrichment opportunities.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is at the heart of our school's ethos and is central to our Christian values. We teach pupils that while people may hold different views or live in different ways, everyone deserves respect.

- School Ethos and Assemblies: Respect is a one of our key school values and is reinforced in assemblies, classroom discussions, and day-to-day interactions.
- Life skills curriculum: Through units such as Mutual respect and Relationships and Diversity, pupils develop an understanding of how mutual respect underpins positive interactions in school and society.
- No Outsiders: Using the Equality Act 2020 as our foundation, after reading one 35 picture books, children engage in child-led discussions which offer an opportunity to reflect on the key messages, whilst promoting awareness and acceptance of diversity. This is reinforced by regular, No Outsiders and British Values assemblies.

The Rule of Law

We teach pupils the importance of the rule of law and how it serves to protect and guide individuals and society.

- Behaviour Policy: Our clearly structured behaviour policy ensures that pupils understand the rules governing the school and the consequences of not adhering to them.
- Reinforcing Laws: Through lessons and assemblies, pupils learn about the significance of laws, their role in protecting individuals, and the responsibilities that come with them.
- External Visits: Visits from the Police, Fire Service, and other public services help pupils understand the role of laws in maintaining a safe and orderly society.
- Curriculum Links: The concept of the rule of law is explored in subjects such as Life skills, PSHE and P4C.

Tolerance of Those with Different Faiths and Beliefs

At Theale C.E. Primary, we actively promote tolerance and understanding of people with different faiths or beliefs through education and experience.

- Religious Education: With planning in line with Discovery RE and Understanding Christianity, providing pupils with a broad and balanced understanding of Christianity, Hinduism, Judaism, Islam, and other world religions.
- Culture Connoisseurs: Through our bespoke Culture Connoisseurs curriculum, we celebrate the diverse cultures and faiths represented within our community. By exploring influential artists, inspiring individuals, and significant musical traditions from various cultures and historical periods, we foster a deep appreciation and respect for diversity. This program encourages our pupils to develop a broader understanding of the world, embracing the richness of different cultural heritages while promoting inclusion and tolerance across all aspects of school life.
- Prejudices and bullying related to religion or belief are addressed through life skills lessons and assemblies. Our school fosters an inclusive environment where diversity is celebrated, and discrimination is actively confronted, reinforced by our *No Outsiders* ethos.

Conclusion

At Theale C.E. Primary, we are committed to promoting British Values in a way that is consistent with our Christian foundation and ethos. We nurture our pupils to be respectful, tolerant, and responsible citizens, preparing them for life in modern Britain. Through our curriculum, assemblies, and day-to-day school life, we ensure that all pupils understand the importance of democracy, individual liberty, mutual respect, and the rule of law, as well as fostering an inclusive and tolerant community.

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