



British Values Statement 2025

Introduction

At St. Austin's Catholic Primary School, we want every child to feel valued, safe and inspired to be the best they can be. We believe that by nurturing respect, kindness and responsibility, we are helping to shape children into confident, thoughtful individuals who contribute positively to their community and the wider world.

The government describes British Values as principles that help children grow into considerate and confident individuals who contribute positively to society. These values are:

- **Democracy** – Understanding the importance of having a voice, making decisions together and respecting different opinions.
- **Rule of Law** – Learning why rules exist, how they keep us safe and the importance of fairness and responsibility.
- **Individual Liberty** – Encouraging independence, confidence and the ability to make choices while respecting others.
- **Mutual Respect and Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs** – Treating everyone with kindness and fairness, celebrating diversity and learning from one another.

As a Catholic school, these values are at the heart of what we do. Through daily school life, lessons and activities, we help children understand how to respect others, take responsibility for their actions and work together to make a difference in the world.

Democracy – Giving Everyone a Voice

We nurture democratic principles by encouraging all pupils to have a voice in school life. Our School Council, Religious Education (RE), Science, Reading, Maths, Food, Sports, Spanish and Art Ambassadors provide opportunities for pupils to engage in decision-making, debate and community projects. Through structured discussions, voting opportunities and problem-solving activities, pupils learn the value of participation, compromise and active citizenship.

We encourage critical thinking by incorporating media literacy and global affairs into the curriculum, ensuring pupils understand how democracy functions in the UK and internationally.

Rule of Law – Understanding Rules and Responsibilities

We emphasise the importance of laws, rules and responsibilities within our school and society. Pupils learn about justice, fairness and accountability through:

- Class charters and behaviour policies that encourage responsibility and positive relationships.



- Curriculum links to history, PSHE and citizenship, where pupils explore how legal systems protect individual freedoms and ensure justice.
- Engagement with local law enforcement, community leaders and digital safety initiatives to reinforce real-world applications of the rule of law.

We also prepare children for the digital age by teaching online safety, responsible digital citizenship and cybersecurity awareness.

Individual Liberty – Becoming Independent and Confident

We encourage pupils to develop confidence, resilience and independence in their learning and decision-making. Through a broad and balanced curriculum, children are provided with opportunities to:

- Explore their talents and interests through extracurricular activities such as sports, music, mindfulness and art clubs.
- Develop self-expression and creativity through the arts, STEM projects and collaborative learning experiences.
- Understand personal freedoms and responsibilities through discussions on rights, diversity and social justice.
- Become responsible digital citizens, understanding the importance of privacy, consent and ethical online behaviour.

Mutual Respect and Tolerance – Learning from Each Other

At St. Austin's, we celebrate our diverse school community and help children understand the importance of kindness, fairness and respect for all. We provide opportunities for pupils to:

- Learn about different faiths and cultures through Religious Education (RE), special celebrations and assemblies.
- Take part in events like International Language Days and Hispanic performances, where they can explore languages and traditions from around the world.
- Read books and hear stories that reflect a wide range of experiences, helping them to develop empathy and understanding.
- Discuss real-world issues like climate change, refugees and fairness, helping them see how they can make a difference in society.

Caring for Our Environment



We believe that looking after the world around us is part of being a responsible citizen. We teach pupils to respect nature and care for the planet by:

- Offering hands-on outdoor learning through Forest School and gardening projects.
- Encouraging sustainability through initiatives like polytunnel food growing and beekeeping.
- Empowering our Recycling Prefects to lead by example, promoting the importance of reducing waste, reusing materials and recycling responsibly.
- Teaching about climate change and conservation in science and geography lessons, helping pupils understand the impact of their choices on the world.

Embedding British Values in Everyday Learning

British Values are not just something we teach in lessons; they are woven into everything we do. Our STEM, Culture and Well-being subject teams work together to make sure these values are reflected across the curriculum, helping children to become thoughtful and engaged citizens.

We also provide meaningful experiences such as school trips, digital literacy projects and themed learning weeks, ensuring that pupils develop real-world knowledge and skills.

At St. Austin's, we prepare children not just to be good students, but to be good people—compassionate, curious and ready to play their part in the world with confidence and kindness.