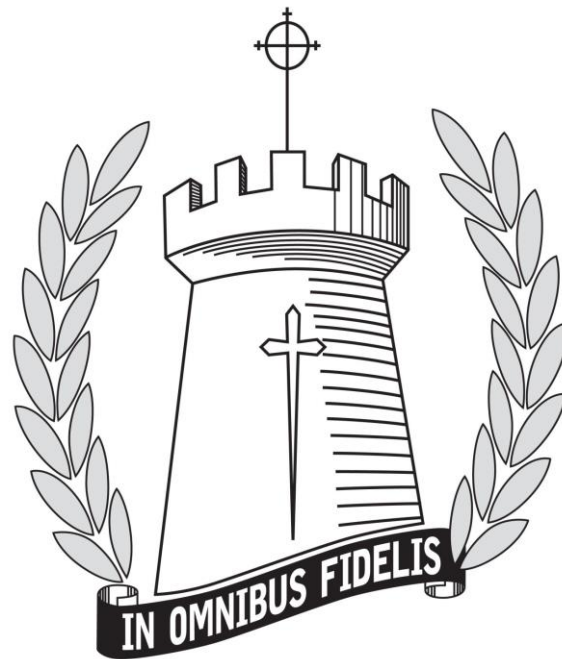


St Damian's R.C Science College



British values Statement

British Values Statement

St Damian's RC Science College is required under section 78 of the Education Act (2002) to promote the spiritual, moral, mental and physical development of pupils. As of November 2013, schools also need promote fundamental British values as part of the school curriculum.

St Damian's RC Science College is committed to serving its community. It recognises the multi-cultural, multi-faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom. It also understands the vital role it has in ensuring that groups or individuals within the school are not subjected to intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to unduly, or illegally, influence them.

It follows equal opportunities guidance which guarantees that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status, or similar. **St Damian's RC Science College** is dedicated to preparing pupils for their adult life beyond the formal, examined curriculum and ensuring that it promotes and reinforces British values to all its pupils.

The DfE has suggested that pupils are taught about fundamental British values during their spiritual, moral and cultural (SMSC) classes. Pupils are expected to display knowledge of the fundamental aspects of British values. The government has outlined their expectations, stating that pupils should:

- Understand the democratic process and how citizens can have a say in decision making.
- Recognise the advantages to living under the rule of law and how law is essential for a safe society.
- See that there is a separation of power and why it exists.
- Understand the reasons for accountability of institutions and why courts maintain independence.
- Know why freedom of religion protects all faiths, as well as those with no faith.
- Accept that people who hold different religious beliefs should be tolerated and not be discriminated against.
- Value the importance of identifying and combatting extremism.

St Damian's RC Science College does not have to promote or teach any particular belief, view or way of life that contradicts our outlook or ethos; however, we will not promote discrimination, or accept intolerance against people or groups, on the basis of their belief, opinion or background.

Democracy

Key Aim - an understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process

St Damian's promotes the importance of 'Democracy' through:

- the formation of the Pupil Learning Forum & the Pupil Liturgy Group
- pupil leadership opportunities and the appointment of the Head Boy & Head Girl, Deputies & Blue and Black Ties prefects & peer mentors
- pupils taking part in classroom debates
- teachers highlighting the development of democratic ideas in lessons
- pupil voice activities on key areas of school life
- teacher questioning & the whole school communication focus on pupil oral competency
- the invitation of the local MP Angela Rayner, local councillor Oliver Ryan, the Mayor of Dukinfield and other speakers to the school
- Y10 ASPIRE Day focused on Democracy
- holding a mock elections / referendums
- lessons following democratic principles ensuring the inclusion of all pupils
- the active participation of pupils in Curriculum Enrichment Activities eg Eco Club
- current affairs being discussed during Form-time including an exploration of British issues and values in the media.
- encouraging pupils to be aware of injustice and think about ways in which this can be challenged through charity fundraising initiatives e.g. Cafod
- Through Citizenship, different forms of government are discussed.

The rule of law

Key Aim: an appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their wellbeing and safety.

St Damian's promotes the importance of 'Rule of Law' through:

- having a clear behaviour policy that is explained to all
- organising visits from the police to reinforce the message of right and wrong e.g. ASPIRE Days - Year 7 Stranger Danger & Y10 Youth Justice
- highlighting the rules of the Church
- accountability being high on the agenda for all stakeholders including staff (Teachers' Standards and Appraisal)
- PSHE teaching about the development of the Rule of Law in English Law
- the Acceptable Use of ICT Policy being used to promote the correct use of the internet and social media
- pupils being explicitly taught the legal framework on a number of contemporary and social issues
- the implementation of the Safeguarding policy
- Marking and Feedback, as well as Homework, policies setting clear boundaries which are explained clearly to pupils
- teachers helping pupils to distinguish right from wrong through discussion and modelling positive behaviour
- teachers use curricular opportunities to explore the differences between civil, criminal and religious law as they pertain to British and other societies.

Individual freedom

Key Aim: an understanding that there is a separation of power between the executive and the judiciary, and that while some public bodies such as the police and the army can be held to account through Parliament, others such as the courts maintain independence.

St Damian's promotes the importance of 'Individual Liberty' through:

- encouraging pupils to be independent in their learning
- providing pupils with opportunities for reflection
- introducing pupils to a range of experiences so that they are able to make more informed choices for themselves on a range of issues
- empowering pupils to make 'informed choices' about future education, employment and training opportunities
- pupils being able to select from a range of extra-curricular activities and clubs
- pupils having choice in the school canteen within healthy boundaries.
- pupils being encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms safely, for example through e-safety
- gaining privileges for positive contributions to the school community such as Year 11 prefects getting priority entrance to the canteen at lunchtime
- PSHE – exploration of national and international concerns e.g. war and conflict, human rights, role of the United Nations, European Union
- embedding our catholic school ethos and encouraging pupils to be aware of their rights and responsibilities from a legal and moral viewpoint and to make the right choices

Mutual Respect

Key Aim: an understanding that the freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law.

St Damian's promotes the importance of 'Mutual Respect' through:

- having a mission statement that is inclusive
- enforcing a smart dress code for pupils and staff
- supporting all pupils to develop positive self-esteem, self-confidence and self-awareness and self-knowledge
- promoting mutual respect between pupils, as well as mutual respect between adults
- embedding a positive understanding of differences and a willingness to listen to the views of others in our daily practices.
- giving clear guidance on e-safety and the use of social media
- encouraging pupils to assume responsibility for their own behaviour and acknowledge the effects it may have on others.
- promoting restorative justice as a key driver to secure mutual respect and tolerance.
- challenging stereotypes and promoting individuality at every opportunity, modelled by staff and older pupils to set positive examples throughout the school.
- working tirelessly to establish and maintain a climate in which all pupils feel safe and bullying is not tolerated
- introducing pupils to school visitors from a wide range of backgrounds and beliefs.
- reinforcing the value of everyone's opinions in class discussions
- emphasising that every person is unique and "created in the image of God"
- supporting charitable works
- following the school Equality and Diversity and Equal Opportunities policies

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

Key Aim: an acceptance that other people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated, and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour and an understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination

St Damian's promotes the importance of 'Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs' through:

- the inclusion of a number of minority groups in the school population
- highlighting how Religious Education provides pupils with a deep understanding of their own faith as well as awareness of the faith and traditions of other religious communities as a basis for understanding and respecting them
- Showing how Jesus encouraged tolerance in exploring the Word of God
- enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a diverse society e.g. through assemblies
- the RE curriculum provides the opportunity for pupils to learn about a variety of different faiths including, Christianity, Buddhism, Sikhism, Judaism and Hinduism.
- assemblies celebrating festivals and teachings from a range of different faiths
- promoting respect for individual differences
- using curricular and extra-curricular opportunities to expose pupils to British and other cultures, their ways of life and faiths, encouraging and supporting pupils in growing their understanding and appreciation of these.
- discussing differences between people: ethnicity, gender, faith, disability, sexuality and family situations such as young carers or looked after children ensuring that pupils can understand these different elements within British society.

Identifying Radicalisation

Key Aim: an understanding that radicalisation can harm everyone in society and radicalisation occurs in all communities

St Damian's promotes the importance of 'Identifying radicalisation' through:

- pupils and staff knowing of the dangers [the many forms of extremism & dangers online].
- pupils and staff knowing the process for reporting their concerns.
- PSHE Schemes of Work – Half Term 6.