



Archdiocese of Birmingham  
**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
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## British values statement

**St Mary's Catholic Primary School** is required under section 78 of the Education Act 2002 to promote the spiritual, moral, mental and physical development of pupils. As of November 2014, schools also need promote fundamental British values as part of the school curriculum.

**St Mary's Catholic Primary School** is committed to serving its community. It recognises the multi-cultural, multi-faith and ever-changing nature of the UK. 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.

### Our Values

British values are now an established part of Government expectations. This is obviously a response to the current climate of immigration, radicalisation and growth in our population etc.

What are "British" values and are we really expected to foster and cultivate the finest of human values? This has always been the understanding of any good teacher i.e. that we impart and draw out the very best from the pupils we serve. We have to be ambitious for them (St Paul said – be ambitious for the higher gifts – love, patience etc).

In a Catholic school our vocation is to be co-creators with the Almighty – His work in the children is barely started when they begin school – it is in our gift to support them (with their parents) in becoming the best human beings they can be. At St Mary's, this is, and has always been, our mission and driving force.

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 Mary's Catholic Primary School** 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 Mary's Catholic Primary School** 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.

We believe that the Pupil Profile Virtues, namely...

**Grateful** and **generous**;  
**Compassionate** and **loving**;  
**Eloquent** and **truthful**;  
**Curious** and **active**

**Attentive** and **discerning**;  
**Faithfilled** and **hopeful**;  
**Learned** and **wise**;  
**Intentional** and **prophetic**

compromise the very best of humanity and all children focus on these every day within school.