



# St Aidan's Catholic Academy

*'We believe that God has created each person to celebrate life to the full'*



## **British Values Policy**



## Rationale

We promote the British values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

The Latin motto of St Aidan's Catholic Academy is 'Deus Lux nostra' – God is our Light! It means that God will be with you, enlightening you with his wisdom. This also links closely with our Mission which is 'We believe that God has created each person to celebrate life to the full'.

So we will:

- Put the learning and progress of pupils first.
- Inspire them to be happy, healthy, confident, unique and tolerant individuals who flourish and achieve.
- Guide all to fulfil their potential spiritually, academically and socially.
- Promote their responsibility and resilience, diligence and determination, independence and enterprise.
- Encourage their originality and creativity.
- Care for them in a safe and equal environment.

## Purposes

We promote British values because we want to play our part in:

- Perpetuating and encouraging full involvement in democracy.
- Strengthening the legal principles of justice and fairness.
- Protecting individual freedoms.
- Fostering positive relationships based on respect and courtesy.
- Ensuring acceptance of cultural and religious diversity.
- Protecting our pupils from radicalisation.

## Guidelines

We promote responsible participation in democratic processes by:

- Encouraging involvement with elections for UK Youth Parliament.
- Encouraging participation in local and national elections.
- Fair and open voting process for pupils and staff to elect our head boy and deputies.
- Teaching about the development and process of democracy.
- Using pupil voice to help inform school improvement.
- Sharing tasks of responsibility in lessons.
- Providing countermeasures to attempts to radicalise our pupils.
- Participation in our whole-school debate programme.



We promote respect for and adherence to the rule of law by:

- Providing a safe environment in which the pupils' needs come first.
- Fair application of our Achievement, Behaviour and Attendance Policy.
- Encouraging respect for rules and authority in sport and team activities.
- Teaching aspects of British law across multiple subjects.
- Assemblies led by colleagues from the Police.

We promote individual liberty and equal opportunities by:

- Personifying the values of Deus Lux nostra.
- Giving freedom of expression without fear of ridicule.
- Encouraging independent learning and creativity.
- Giving choice of tasks.
- Providing forums for discussion and debate.
- Differentiating support so no one is left behind.
- Improving self-esteem.
- Personalising subject choices in KS4 and KS5.
- Protecting pupils from discrimination and bullying.

We promote mutual respect by:

- Providing a safe and happy environment.
- Including everyone.
- Just application of our behaviour for learning policy.
- A well-developed rewards system.
- Fostering good relationships everywhere in school.
- Zero tolerance of bullying, discrimination and inappropriate behaviour.
- Fundraising for causes across the world.
- Responsible and considerate peer assessment and collaborative work.
- Celebrating success in assemblies and Awards Evenings.

We promote tolerance of different faiths and beliefs by:

- Teaching about world religions in RE.
- Advocating tolerance in lessons, assemblies and reflection time.
- Accepting differences in beliefs.
- Welcoming pupils of all faiths and none.



## Policy Review

This policy document will be reviewed in January 2027.

Signed by:

Dr C Emmerson  
January 2026  
Chair of Governors