



ST VINCENT'S SCHOOL

A Specialist School for Sensory Impairment and Other Needs

Review Cycle	3 years	
Owned By	Principal	
Document History / Action	Who	Date
Initial	Dr J Patterson	Jan 2015
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Statement on the Promotion of British Values

Background and Rationale

Though it has acquired a greater urgency more recently, the importance of schools espousing British values is not new:

- The 2008 National Curriculum includes the following statement:

The school curriculum should contribute to the development of pupils' sense of identity through knowledge and understanding of the spiritual, moral, social and cultural heritages of Britain's diverse society and of the local, national, European, Commonwealth and global dimensions of their lives

- The 2011 Teachers' Standards state, as part of teachers' personal and professional conduct:

Teachers uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school, by not undermining fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

- These values support the national PREVENT / CONTEST Strategy, put before Parliament in 2011 by the Home Secretary as a response to radicalisation of British citizens.

The PREVENT Strategy recognises the importance of schools in counter-terrorism and organised crime activities. More recently, concerns about the inappropriate actions of some schools were highlighted in the Birmingham Trojan Horse case, where a number of OFSTED inspections revealed a failure to promote British values adequately in some schools, meaning that young people in them were vulnerable to radical and extremist ideas. Consequently, all schools need a clear statement of British values and how they are promoted through the school's curriculum. The Principal was engaged in developing PREVENT ideas at Liverpool Hope University in his last post and has maintained links to the Home Office and Merseyside Police in research and development. Significantly, this has included the HELPINGCOMMUNITIESTOSEE project led in school by former Chief Inspector Mark Lawes and the local West Derby Inspector, Sue Stribling between 2015 -2016. We have maintained publication in this area via the Police Journals. Our Ypres visit and generation of a learning resource for circulation as part of a 'lasting legacy' has been engaged with Hope Student teachers and will be distributed to all 800 Merseyside schools as part of the 100 year Great War commemorations with Merseyside Police support. Furthermore, St.Vincent's hosted the Police input to the UN disability day on 3rd December 2018. This is framed by the 'lasting legacy' work surrounding the sight box distribution which has seen the schools work celebrated at the Palace of Westminster, Buckingham Palace and Westminster Abby; there is a clear evidence trail from Ypres in 2015 to the Palace of Westminster, Buckingham Palace and Westminster Abby (November 2018) and the Blind Veterans UK statue unveiling in Manchester October 2018 underpinned by our INTENT , IMPLEMENTATION and IMPACT . School has now embedded the UN SDGS across the curriculum as a connected framework . Schools recognition in the Educate Awards 2020 for 'Innovation' underpins the sharing of best practices across the Commonwealth and beyond. 'Journey for Peace' as a complete project delivered in 2020-21 is a powerful exemplar of British Values 'working local thinking global' . From September 2021 continued SIGHTBOX work and the MAGIC BENCH project in synergy with leading the Mersey Region Sustainable Schools Network and Lets Go Zero ideas feeding into Cop26 frames our British Values reflections underpinned by the DofE Award

- St.Vincent's awarded 'Roscoe' Lecture Citizenship Award by LJMU 2017
- Dr. Patterson was the keynote speaker at the Merseyside Police PREVENT conference held at St.Vincent's April 2018
- Invited to Blindveterans UK statue unveiling October 2018 handing poppy to Countess of Wessex
- Invited to Palace of Westminster to share our 'lasting legacy' international story (October 2018), Buckingham Palace with Never Such Innocence, and Westminster Abby November 2018 (the Prime Minister wore our poppy at PM Question time)
- Invited to present our poppy ceramics at the Police Remembrance Service November 2018
- Invited to Berlin as part of Never Such innocence friendship collaboration November 2018
- Pupils work celebrated in the Never Such Innocence publication
- School awarded Education Award for Innovation 2020
- Mr Swanston recognised by Pearson's Gold award 2021 for SEN leadership including SIGHTBOX activities collaborating with a range of agencies
- Schools recognition in Pearson's 2021 for 'IMPACT through partnership' underpins activities surrounding the UN SDGS
- Mr Swanston in top 50 Varkey Global Teacher Prize 2021
- Dr Patterson invited to serve on Merseyside Independent Advisory Board (MIAG) on the Preventative Policing panel
- Dr Patterson invited to input the Future Proof Education plan Lord Jim Knight using to lobby Parliament for one hour climate action Citizenship per week

What is meant by "British Values"?

We believe that the following list exemplifies some of the values held dear by British citizens:

- Democracy
- Respect of the rule of law
- Appreciation of the rights of other citizens
- Individual liberty
- The promotion of opportunities for all
- Support for those who cannot, by themselves, sustain a dignified life-style
- Religious tolerance and respect for cultural diversity
- Treating others with fairness
- **Participation in community life in collaboration with intermediary agencies**
- The contribution to, as well as the benefit from, cultural and economic resources

Although this list is not exhaustive, we believe it encapsulates the attitudes of St Vincent's School values and seeks to inculcate in its young people.

How does St Vincent's School go about promoting these values?

At St Vincent's we believe that our work towards an '*education and enterprise village*' via *research informed, collaboratively driven, outcome led and project-based reverse inclusion*....provides a positive

contribution to the life of the whole school, the wider community, intermediary agencies and educational collaborators. The 'village' makes explicit our fundamental belief in many of these values. British values are embodied in the following more specific ways:

- All our students study RE and philosophy in line with the agreed Liverpool syllabus. The new 2021 debating club encourages pupil voice reflection
- The school supports local, national and international charities.
- Pupil voice is very important to us and our Student Council gives our students experience of democratic processes and of how to influence decisions about their school experience.
- Social, moral, cultural and spiritual education is very important and is incorporated in many aspects of the formal and informal curriculum.. It is further evidenced and mirrored on our Twitter activities @StVincentsL12 and @sightboxuk . Staff are encouraged to follow this embedded in the website to open supportive conversations with pupils across the wider life of school
- We are significantly engaged with key organisations reflecting 'British Spirit' including the Scouts, Rotary, Rotary International, The Duke of Edinburgh Award, Merseyside Police Cadets, BlindVeteransUK and the Pakistan Multicultural Centre. Dr Patterson serves as the disability lead for the CISC schools network We engage with inter-denominational and inter-faith friendships and activities.
- Our approach to behaviour support is based on fostering respect and concern for others whilst expressing your own needs, views and desires in an appropriate way.
- We share our best practices and resources collaboratively both virtually and terrestrially and via research and publication; starting with our own West Derby Learning Network of schools, local Police and Local Universities including Schools Direct and volunteerism, we stretch our boundaries. Furthermore, we actively seek reciprocal value by drawing in best practices from local national and international partners. We share best practice to the MQTVI qualification with LJMU