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St Vincent’s School is part of the Catholic Blind Institute

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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, our ‘starting point’ embraced by the ‘lasting legacies’ project from 2015 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 . In February 2019 StVincents was awarded a High Sherriff Award for valuable service to the Community via the ‘lasting Legacies’ project

SNAPSHOT

* St.Vincents awarded ‘Roscoe’ Lecture Citizenship Award by LJMU 2017, LJMU Corporate Award 2017
* Dr. Patterson was the keynote speaker at the Merseyside Police PREVENT conference held at St.Vincent’s April 2018
* Sightbox video included in Global Disabilty Summit London July 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 Minster 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
* StVincents included in the international Purple Light up 2018
* School Awarded High Sheriff Lasting Legacy Award for service to community (Feb 2019)
* Sightbox won RNIB recognition May 2019 and Rotary ‘Champion of Change’ 2019
* StVincents hosted a visit from VI pupils and teachers from Indonesia and Sierra Leone for 6 weeks and 4 week placements using the sightbox starting in May for our pupils to be the trainers of the trainers and simultaneously open international collaborations in teaching and learning. Pupils met Mayor Anderson to explain our vision. Embassy officials from Surabaya and London visited St.Vincents
* CEOS of the IAPB and IEF Dame Victoria Sheffield and Dr B Quarashi visited from USA to discuss wider international sightbox collaborations
* StVincents participated in singing for the international Teachability Conference musical performance at the Philharmonic June 2019 This project is being used by the British Council and CAFOD as an international model of best practice (see film footage)
* Invited to meet and sing for HRH Princess Anne at the Unveiling of the John Hully Statue June 2019
* Dr Patterson invited to speak at (four) Liverpool Hope, LJMU North Liverpool Curriculum and Chaplaincy Conferences on the impact of the school international outreach curriculum 2019 . St.Vincent pupils (EG RM) mirroring engagement with HE and have done a number of lectures for UClan and Liverpool Hope
* St Vincent’s and Indonesian pupils planted a tree at Liverpool Hope University July 2019 cementing collaborations
* St.Vincents undertook a ‘Qawwali Night’ in collaboration with the Pakistan Multicultural Centre August 2019
* StVincents undertook a summer sports camp 2019

**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?**

**Our published curriculum ‘formula’ embraces CITIZENSHIP education, the UN SDGS (17.3.4.5.8.10 specifically ) to focus on outcomes and flightpaths through:**

**SOCIAL/HUMAN CAPITAL+REVERSE INCLUSION+ SERVICE LEARNING +CREATIVITY= OUTCOMES**

**We share our real-time implementation on Twitter @StvincentsL12 @sightboxuk @DrJohnAPatters1**

**St’Vincent’s further shares its best practice through the mandatory MQTVI qualification awarded by the DfE in collaboration with LJMU . We are into our third year of delivery**

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 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. This is evidenced in our SMSC matrix which demonstrates the wide range of activities that we do to promote the understanding, knowledge and attitudes that underpin British values. It is further evidenced and mirrored on our Twitter activities @StVincentsL12 and @sightboxuk
* We are significantly engaged with key organisations reflecting ‘British Spirit’ including the Scouts, Rotary, Rotary International, The Duke of Edinburgh Award, the John Muir Award, The Catholic Association for Racial Justice and 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.