



## Fundamental British Values Statement

The Government sets out its definition of British values in the 'Prevent Strategy' (2011) which is designed to prevent extremism and the radicalisation of young people.

British values are considered by the present Government to be:

- Democracy
- The Rule of Law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

We achieve this daily through the content of the curriculum, co-curriculum, the tutorial and PSHE(E) programme, assemblies, liturgies, the School Council, trips, visits and charity fund raising events.

The promotion of British values is important to Marist education because British values have their origin in the Christian values of the nation. Equally, our framework for understanding British values draws on the example of Jesus and his welcome and inclusion of all. We appreciate that our community is a diverse one and we welcome girls from different cultures and religious backgrounds and the rich diversity that each one brings.

In a school setting comprising of over 500 students, more than 100 members of staff and upwards of 30 teaching disciplines it is challenging in a statement document such as this to provide even a representative sample of the learning opportunities and activities that take place across a school year which promote commonly held British values.

As a school we recognise, promote and celebrate British values. This can be seen in all the disciplines: Science, Arts, Humanities, Sports, Technology, Social Sciences, Languages and Performance as well as the contributions from people, past and present, from all walks of life. This endemic commitment to promoting such values across all the ages, phases and key stages is evident in learning tasks, teaching activities, displays of work, acts of collective worship and in the everyday conduct of the people who make up our school community.

Through the PSHE(E) programme issues relating to identity, justice, social engagement, personal responsibility and good citizenship are offered.

Regular school events form a key and constant part of our efforts to promote greater community cohesion and demonstrate shared British values of justice and belonging.

Links with Marist Schools and communities in the developing world and charitable fund raising alongside supporting the homeless and refugees remain a key priority for the school.

Student Council elections, academic and pastoral awards, international focus days, learning initiatives with local businesses, universities, political figures, armed forces and military services all contribute to social tolerance, political awareness, personal responsibility and justice.

By promoting these values, staff and students feel empowered to challenge opinions or behaviours in school which are contrary to fundamental British values.

Through the provision of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education (SMSC) The Marist School aims to:

- Enable pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence.
- Enable pupils to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England.
- Encourage pupils to accept responsibility for their own behaviour, show initiative, to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of their school and to society more widely.
- Enable pupils to acquire a broad general knowledge and respect for public institutions and services in England.
- Further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling pupils to acquire an appreciation and respect for their own and other cultures.
- Encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes including respect for the bases on which the law is made and applied in England.

("Promoting Fundamental British Values as part of SMSC in schools" – DfE Nov 2014)

In line with the guidance provided by the Department for Education The Marist School supports the requirements of Section 78 of the Education Act in the Provision of SMSC