



L A L E H A M L E A

A Catholic Independent Primary School for boys and girls aged 3 to 11

Head Teacher: Mrs. M Reece

L A L E H A M L E A S C H O O L & N U R S E R Y

B R I T I S H V A L U E S P O L I C Y

This is a whole school policy which applies to all sections of the school, including Early Years Foundation Stage, Out of School Care and Clubs.

	Date	Signed
Date reviewed	November 2024	<i>M Reece</i> Acting Headteacher
Ratified by the Board of Governors	November 2024	<i>M Ryan</i> Chair of Governors
Date of next review	November 2026	



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Mission Statement

Recognising that Gospel values are central to the life of the school, we at Laleham Lea aim to create a loving, welcoming environment in which our children may grow intellectually, socially and emotionally; an environment in which their talents are recognised and fostered and their weaknesses treated with compassion; an environment which provides quality teaching and learning within a balanced curriculum framework and which helps every child to reach their true potential.

Together with parents, who are the first educators, we aim to lead our children towards tolerance, understanding and sensitivity to the needs of others so that they may grow up as well-balanced individuals with a strong sense of personal identity and an awareness of God's love.

Actively Promoting British Values at Laleham Lea Catholic Independent School

In 2014 the DfE reinforced the need "to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs."

First and foremost, we recognise that our role as a Catholic school is to uphold our Catholic values and put Christ and his teachings at the heart of its existence by:

- Actively promoting our faith in a meaningful way for children, staff, parents and the wider school community.
- Valuing the individuality and uniqueness of each person by providing a stimulating environment where all can learn according to their strengths and abilities.
- Showing courtesy, respect, love and kindness to all God's family/people.
- Providing a safe, caring and stimulating environment in which children can learn, staff can work and everyone can be shown respect, courtesy and love.
- Encouraging each child to develop self-worth, a desire to learn and the skills to achieve their potential in all subjects.
- Fostering a love of God through the practice of our faith in the celebration of the Eucharist, assemblies and prayer times.
- Strengthening the partnership that exists between all members of the community - priests, parishioners, families, staff and governors - so that we all work together in educating our children.
- Providing a broad and creative curriculum that provides children with the essential skills needed in both today's world and an awareness of the wonders of God's world both in Science and the Arts.

The Catholic faith that we share at Laleham Lea gives us the vision of what we are and what we are called to be as individuals and as a community. We aim to be the best we can be as human beings.

The school values reflect 'Christ at the Centre' (Marcus Stock – CTS 2012) which aligns the Gospel values to the qualities of a disciple in Jesus' Sermon on the Mount e.g. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst - Truth and Justice; Blessed are the merciful – Forgiveness and Mercy.



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Our school offers us numerous opportunities to try and share that vision and to help one another experience its meaning in our day-to-day life, by living and working together.

We use this as our basis for all that we do here and ensure British Values are entwined in this.

At Laleham Lea these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy:

At Laleham Lea we understand that the children's opinions about their school are valid and need to be at the heart of our decision making. All staff will model this process through asking questions and inviting children's answers and opinions, whether it be in lessons, during assemblies, at lunchtime or on the playground.

Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council, Eco Committee and Pupil Surveys. The children have the chance to elect a representative from each class that they feel will represent their classes views. The School Council is involved in decision making for matters around the school.

Students voted for and chose the 'Code of Conducts' for all students which promotes kindness and politeness to all.

Children in Year 6 also have many additional responsibilities such as House Captains, Sports Captains, Pupil Chaplains and Buddies. They take these responsibilities extremely seriously and are fantastic ambassadors for our school. All of these positions, are positions that the children have to apply for and be considered for.

The Rule of Law:

The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. Students have created their own 'Code of Conduct' rules that we need to follow to ensure the best for all at our school. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. They also understand that working within the agreed rules brings its own rewards and this is demonstrated in our reward systems such as celebration assemblies and Head Teacher Awards.

The school's ethos and teaching encourages respect for English civil and criminal law. We endeavour to include visits from authorities such as the Police; Fire Service; etc. as part of our calendar and help reinforce this message.

As a Catholic school, children are exposed to the rules of the Church and God in the RE curriculum, for example the 10 Commandments.

Individual Liberty:

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and an empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advise how to exercise these safely, for example through our



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E-Safety and circle time. Whether it be through choice of challenge, of how they record their work, choosing which of our many extra-curricular activities or opportunities to participate in or what to eat at lunchtime, our pupils are given the freedom to make many choices and to express themselves to lead and help others.

Mutual Respect:

At the heart of our Gospel teachings from Jesus Christ is:

'To love one another as I have loved you', to trust in God - (this is reinforced by the school's motto 'Spera in Deo') and to shine our light in the right way so that others may follow.

This is at the core of our school and we expect all to adhere to this teaching regardless of their background, faith, or race. Everyone is treated with respect in our school. Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy has revolved around Core Values such as 'Respect', and pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies related to what this means and how it is shown. Another value we promote is ensuring that we focus on 'Manners and Politeness' towards everyone in our school; the students have included this in the **'Code of Conduct' they have chosen to put in place.**

Throughout our RE and PSHE lessons, pupils are reminded that every person is unique and "created in the image of God".

Contribute Positively to the Community

The school is committed to the community and the common good, by helping those who are in need of help locally and further afield. This is exemplified by Year 6 pupils helping at the Purley Food Hub and pupils visiting and singing at a local care home. Pupils also participate in Diocesan-wide events such as The Beginning of Year Mass. **As a school we are actively involved in the Catholic School Cluster events, liaising closely with local schools.**

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

This is achieved through enhancing pupils understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. Different year groups work on different cultures / faiths and we endeavour to have visitors or trips related to this. Cross Curricular topics develop a historical and modern day cultural understanding and tolerance of others. This is reflected in reading, writing, research and the Arts We also, through our Remembrance week, recognise all those who fought and died in World Wars to maintain and uphold our values. The school is represented by two students each year at the Woodcote Wreath Laying Service.

Our Religious Education curriculum provides pupils with a deep understanding of their own faith as well as awareness of the faith and traditions of other religious communities as a basis for understanding and respecting them.