GUMLEY HOUSE SCHOOL FCJ

British Values Statement

Plan Reviewed: July 2026 **Date of next review:** July 2028

Overview

Our Ethos and Commitment

At Gumley House School FCJ, our Catholic mission and FCJ values of Companionship, Dignity, Excellence, Gentleness, Justice and Hope shape every aspect of school life. These values align closely with the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect, and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

We are committed to preparing students to contribute positively to modern British society, to uphold the dignity of every person, and to challenge injustice wherever they encounter it.

Legal and Inspection Context

Our approach reflects:

- The Prevent Duty (Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE)
- The Ofsted Education Inspection Framework, particularly Personal Development
- Catholic Schools Inspectorate expectations for formation, character, and social responsibility

We ensure that British values are actively promoted through curriculum, culture, leadership opportunities, and safeguarding practice.

How We Promote British Values

<u>Democracy</u>
We teach students that their voice matters and that participation is a responsibility.

- Student leadership roles across all year groups (School Council, Chaplaincy Team, Eco Leaders, House Captains).
- Democratic processes such as elections, surveys, and student-led decision making.
- Curriculum opportunities in Citizenship, PSHE, RE, History and English to debate, evaluate evidence, and understand democratic institutions.
- Encouraging respectful disagreement and critical thinking in lessons and assemblies.

<u>Rule of Law</u>
We help students understand the purpose of laws, the importance of justice, and the consequences of actions.

- A clear behaviour system rooted in dignity, fairness, and restorative practice.
- Teaching rights and responsibilities through PSHE, RE, and Humanities.
- Visits and workshops with legal professionals, police, and community partners.
- Reinforcing expectations consistently so students understand boundaries and safety.

Individual Liberty

Students are encouraged to make informed choices and to express themselves confidently within a safe and supportive environment.

- A culture where students can share views, explore identity, and develop self-confidence.
- Teaching personal safety, digital citizenship, consent, and healthy relationships.
- Wide curriculum pathways and enrichment opportunities enabling students to pursue interests and talents.
- Support for student wellbeing through pastoral care, counselling, and safeguarding teams.

Mutual Respect

Respect is central to our FCJ ethos and is modelled by staff and students.

- Anti-bullying strategies, peer mentoring, restorative conversations, and inclusion work.
- Curriculum celebrating diverse contributions to British and global society.
- Daily interactions that model kindness, listening, and compassion.
- Assemblies, liturgies, and tutor time exploring respect, justice, and human dignity.

Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs

As a Catholic school, we welcome students of all faiths and none, and we teach understanding through academic study and lived experience.

- A rich RE curriculum exploring world religions with theological and philosophical depth.
- Interfaith dialogue, cultural celebrations, and charity partnerships.
- Challenging stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination through PSHE and Humanities.
- Creating safe spaces for discussion, questioning, and reflection.

British Values and the Prevent Duty

Promoting British values is integral to safeguarding. We build students' resilience to extremist narratives by:

- Teaching critical thinking and media literacy.
- Ensuring staff are trained to identify and respond to concerns.
- Providing safe, structured opportunities to discuss challenging issues.
- Working with local Prevent partners when necessary.

This ensures students understand how to stay safe, make wise choices, and contribute positively to society.

Curriculum, Culture and Enrichment

British values are woven through:

- RE, PSHE, Humanities, English, and Social Sciences
- Assemblies, liturgies, retreats and tutor programmes
- Leadership roles, charity work, and community engagement
- Trips, clubs, competitions, and enrichment activities (such as Culture Days)

Students learn to collaborate, challenge injustice, appreciate diversity, and act with integrity.

Impact
As a result of this work, Gumley students develop as:

- Confident, articulate communicators
- Compassionate and responsible citizens
- Young people who uphold dignity, justice, and respect
- Individuals prepared to contribute positively to modern Britain

Our commitment to British values is not a standalone requirement - it is part of who we are as an FCJ school.