



## Promoting SMSC and Fundamental British Values



At Great Easton Cof E VA Primary SMSC and British Values underpin all that we do and are part of our ethos - encouraging a love of learning, life and living within distinctively Christian surroundings.

### **The Fundamental British Values are:**

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty and mutual respect
- tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

## **SMSC** - Spiritual, Social, Moral and Cultural development

### **Spiritual Development**

As part of our Christian distinctiveness we have a commitment to nurturing childhood spirituality and well-being. It is at the heart of all we do. Children at Great Easton learn that they are unique and special from the moment they come into the Foundation Stage - they are encouraged to love and care about each other and the world. Opportunities to live, learn and grow in faith are afforded our children through the arts, language, outdoor learning and experiences or visits. We enable children to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence.

### **Moral Development**

Our children have a clearly defined sense of right and wrong underpinned by Christian values and the teachings of Jesus. In addition, they are guided toward consideration of wider moral issues through their study themes and classroom discussion and debate. We enable children to distinguish right from wrong. We also encourage children to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely.

### **Social Development**

Behaviour and the quality of all relationships within our school have consistently been judged as 'outstanding'. Our children genuinely care about and consider the feelings of others. They take their social responsibilities seriously both locally, nationally and internationally through charitable support and child sponsorship. We help our children to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England, through worship assemblies, history, geography and PSHCE lessons.

## **Cultural Development**

Children at Great Easton are encouraged to explore beliefs and experiences; respect faiths, feelings and values; enjoy learning about oneself, others and the surrounding world; using imagination and creativity to reflect. We encourage further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling students to acquire an appreciation for and respect for their own and other cultures through learning across the curriculum, using Oddizzi as an online resource to partner us with schools around the world and through the opportunity to visit other places on educational visits. We work hard to ensure children show respect for other people, and encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.

Everyone being valued as a member of a large and caring family group is central to our school's ethos. This family identity is represented symbolically by our 'school bowl'. The bowl contains glass beads and is filled with water, on which float three candles. The water reminds us that we are surrounded by God's Holy Spirit. The three candles represent the Holy Trinity, and also remind us that Jesus is the Light of the World. The beads are of different colours, shapes and sizes, just as the children and adults of our school family are. Everyone in the school family chooses a bead to place in the bowl, and new children and staff are welcomed by selecting a bead and adding it to the bowl in the presence of the school family. Our bowl is displayed in the front entrance but is central to our worship table during our daily worship and assemblies.