



# St Robert of Newminster

Catholic School & Sixth Form College

## British Values

Let Your Light Shine



**Bishop Wilkinson**  
Catholic Education Trust  
Through Christ, in Partnership

## School Vision & Mission

At St Robert of Newminster we recognise that each individual member of our community is created in God's image with unique talents and abilities. We nurture each person through loving relationships and rich daily experiences centred on the teachings of Christ. We affirm the dignity of each individual and our values underpin everything we do across our school, with and for each student and member of staff to enable them to 'Let their light shine'.

### St Robert's Values:

#### Faith

A prayerful community rooted and **guided** by the teachings of **Jesus**

#### Respect

A diverse community, created in the image of God, whose members are treated with **respect** and **dignity**

#### Vocation

A **hard-working** community that helps people recognise their own **unique purpose**

#### Excellence

A **dedicated** community that strives for excellence in our **learning** and **conduct**

#### Aspiration

A community built upon high **expectations** of ourselves and others

#### Integrity

A just community with a firm understanding of what is **right**, that acts with **honesty** and **kindness**



## Let Your Light Shine

FAITH	RESPECT	VOCATION	EXCELLENCE	ASPIRATION	INTEGRITY
					
<b>A prayerful community rooted and guided by the teachings of Jesus</b>	<b>A diverse community, created in the image of God, whose members are treated with respect and dignity</b>	<b>A hard working community that helps people recognise their own unique purpose</b>	<b>A dedicated community that strives for excellence in our learning and our conduct</b>	<b>A community built upon high expectations of ourselves and others</b>	<b>A just community with a firm understanding of what is right that acts with honesty and kindness</b>
“Holiness doesn't mean doing extraordinary things, but doing ordinary things with love and faith.”	“Treat people the same way you want them to treat you.”	“Let us seek to live in a way that is always worthy of our Christian vocation”	“Dear young people, do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you! Do not be afraid to dream of great things!”	“In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works”	“Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth”
<i>Pope Francis</i>	<i>Luke 6:31</i>	<i>Pope Francis</i>	<i>Pope Francis</i>	<i>Matthew 5:16</i>	<i>1 John 3:18</i>

## **British Values at St Robert of Newminster Catholic School**

St Robert's is first and foremost a Catholic school and, as such, we seek to live out the values of the Gospel. We promote these values through our actions within the school community, Catholic teaching and practice permeates every aspect of the school's activity and ethos.

We provide a curriculum, which is broad and balanced, recognising that every pupil is unique and is created in the image of God (Gen 1:27). Our curriculum is designed to enable every pupil to discern their vocation and to be well-equipped to follow it as active citizens in service to society. Catholic Religious Education is the core of our curriculum, and we also provide a wide range of co-curricular activities and strong pastoral support.

We incorporate democratic principles, value the rule of law, support individual liberty and foster a community in which different faiths and beliefs are respected. We encourage our pupils to be tolerant and respectful to those of different faiths and beliefs. This is done by providing them with an understanding of the main festivals and key dates of significance to British culture e.g., Remembrance Day and major political events such as elections.

Below is an overview of how we promote British Values at St Robert's:

### **Democracy**

- ✓ Student Leadership (Form Captains, House Captains & School Captains)
- ✓ Sixth Form Leadership Committee
- ✓ School Council
- ✓ Co-curricular social justice groups
- ✓ Pupil & Staff Voice
- ✓ Democratic process taught through our curriculum and PDE provision

### **The Rule of Law**

- ✓ Ensuring school rules are clear and fair through our consistent behaviour policy
- ✓ School value of integrity challenges the pupils to have a firm understanding of what is right and good
- ✓ Rule of law taught through our curriculum and wider PDE provision
- ✓ Excellent partnerships with the local police officers in our community and outside agencies to support the rule of law
- ✓ Assemblies and collective worship focused on key issues
- ✓ Contextual safeguarding sessions looking at issues pertinent to our local area

### **Individual Liberty**

- ✓ Supporting pupils to develop through their knowledge of and response to the school values
- ✓ Encouraging pupils to take responsibility for their behaviour as well as knowing their rights, by having a fair and consistent approach to the behaviour policy
- ✓ Challenging stereotypes through our PDE programme
- ✓ Implementing a strong anti-bullying culture
- ✓ Our daily collective worship gives us time to reflect on our choices
- ✓ We understand that we have freedom of belief and speech as long as it does not incite hatred and intolerance

## Mutual Respect

- Through our Catholic values we promote respect for individual differences e.g., through assemblies, Holy Mass, the RE curriculum, our PDE programme
- Openly discuss and celebrate the differences between people such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, gender, and different family situations such as looked after children and young carers
- Respect for others, respect for the school building, respect for the values and beliefs of others, respect for ourselves, respect for our Catholic community, respect for other religions, countries, and cultures
- On a more general level, the school undertakes assemblies which uphold traditional values of integrity, respect, and aspiration

## Tolerance

- We learn about other cultures, religions, and beliefs in PSHE and Religious Education lessons
- We read in scripture how Jesus shows us to care for others who don't share our beliefs
- We understand through our daily prayer and collective worship how prejudice hurts people and how important it is to accept people for who they are
- Helping our young people to acquire an understanding of and respect for their own and other cultures and ways of life through the curriculum and broader approach to Personal Development

## Case Study – LGBTQ+ Drop In

In June 2022 our lay school chaplain set up our first LGBTQ+ drop in for students in Year 10-13. This is now a fully established part of our co-curricular programme and has offered a space where pupils feel safe and represented in our community. The testimonies below outline the pupil response to this group:

***"This group makes me feel safe. I can be myself around these people. We discuss issues sensibly and the chaplain is the most amazing support. I love this group."***

***"A safe place, lovely people, a fun and welcoming experience"***

***"The group gives me a place to feel safe and to have a place to feel accepted"***

***"This group is very good as it is a good way of meeting other people of the LGBTQIA+ community. In addition, it is a safe place for people to meet and not be judged."***

***"This is a cool club, and you aren't judged, and you aren't shunned away. Its amazing. It somewhere you can be yourself and people understand what you are going through and can relate."***

***"This club gives a safe place, and we can trust the support we have"***

***"I love the sense of community and the close-knit friendships"***

## St Robert's School Prayer

Dear Lord,

We gather today as a **community** of **faith** and ask the Lord to instil in us an eagerness to learn so we can strive for **excellence**.

May St Robert's example be in our words and actions so that we treat others with dignity and **respect**.

We pray that as we learn, we **aspire** to become better than we were yesterday.

As your **light shines** through us, help us become who you **call** us to be.

Enable us to act with **honesty** and **kindness** welcoming all with **love**.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen

