# Wheldrake with Thorganby CE Primary School
# British Values Policy

## Introduction

At Wheldrake with Thorganby CE Primary School, we uphold and teach children about British Values as directed under Ofsted guidance. September 2014 which states schools should:
***"...promote tolerance of and respect for pupils of all faiths (or those of no faith), cultures and lifestyles; and support and help, through their words, actions and influence within the school and more widely in the community, to prepare children and young people positively for life in modern Britain".***
Our commitment to a community rooted in love, tolerance, respect and celebration of differences is at the heart of our Christian vision and values:

**Love and encourage others.**

Our vision is to nurture a community where we love and encourage each other as we would ourselves, leading to a safe and inspiring environment where every person can thrive academically, socially, and spiritually. This is rooted theologically in the teachings of Jesus and first Christian leaders in the New Testament:

**'Love your neighbour as yourselves.' Matthew 22:39**
**'Let us encourage one another.' Hebrews 10:25**

The values which help us to achieve our vision are:

**Empathy**, which deepens our understanding
**Kindness**, which guides our relationships
**Forgiveness**, which helps us grow
**Honesty**, which builds trust

At Wheldrake with Thorganby CE Primary School we are committed to serving our community and local area. In so doing we reinforce British values regularly and in the following ways:

**Democracy:**

Democratic values are an important part of the ethos at Wheldrake with Thorganby CE Primary School. All adults listen to the views of the children and value their opinions. Democratic values are taught through school council and house captain elections, pupil surveys and debates and learning about how laws and public decisions are made as part of UK Parliament Week in Year 6.

**The Rule of Law:**

The importance of laws and rules are consistently reinforced in the classroom, as well as through our school Collective Worships. Children are taught to understand the need for laws - that they are there for individual protection, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. At Wheldrake with Thorganby CE Primary School the children follow a positive behavior policy and clearly understand the rewards and sanctions that are used. To promote engagement and accountability, the children actively collaborate to design their own class charters. Collective Worships and discussions in class focus on recognising right from wrong and visits from the police, fire service and local councillors help to reinforce these messages.

**Individual Liberty:**

At Wheldrake with Thorganby CE Primary School, our children are encouraged to be independent learners, consistently making choices and developing their freedom of expression within a safe and supportive environment. Developing their self-esteem and self-confidence is very important and encouraged through personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education, circle time activities and through RE lessons. Children are encouraged to understand their personal freedoms and are taught how to use these rights to best effect. They are keen to support charities, whether local, national or global and are encouraged to be courageous advocates and stand up for justice. E-safety teaching also enables them to make choices in a safe manner when using the internet.

**Mutual Respect:**

The ethos of Wheldrake with Thorganby CE Primary School is centered around our Chrisitan Vision “Love and encourage each other”. Collective Worship inspires us to live out our Christian values by demonstrating mutual respect for all people and upholding the importance of empathy, kindness, forgiveness and honesty. All children are taught the importance of self-respect, honest and open communications with others and fair play. They work collaboratively and value others’ opinions.

**Tolerance of those with Different Faiths and Beliefs:**

At Wheldrake with Thorganby CE Primary School, we help our children understand their place in a culturally diverse society. We achieve this through our Religious Education curriculum, a vibrant spiritual life, and collective worship. Our daily classwork celebrates diversity and reinforces that every individual deserves to be respected and valued equally—regardless of ability, gender, faith heritage, or race. Through courageous advocacy, we empower our children to actively challenge prejudice and discrimination.