

How the MFL department actively promotes British values

The MFL department at St Patricks' Catholic College actively promote the key values of mutual respect, diversity and plurality. By gaining an appreciation of the countries where the language the students are studying is spoken, they are encouraged to reflect on other cultures and ways of life and embrace socio-cultural and economic differences and contexts. This ensures that they remain open to the world around them and have a better grasp of the links and connections between countries and societies. This in turn emphasises the need for tolerance and justice, and through their studies, our students come to value the rule of law and democratic systems that European countries and countries further afield enjoy despite the varied customs, festivals and national characteristics that makes every society so unique.

Democracy -

Students have the opportunity to have their voices heard through suggestion boxes and Student Voice in MFL lessons. We encourage an open door policy where the students feel free and able to visit their teachers with their ideas and suggestions. We study the work of UNICEF when we look at Francophone and Hispanic African and Latin American countries, as well as the Convention of the Rights of the Child (CRC) when we discuss the similarities and differences between children's lives in developed and developing Francophone and Hispanic countries.

The Rule of Law –

The importance of Laws, whether they are those that govern the class, the school, or the countries of the languages that we are teaching, is consistently reinforced. Students 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. We study law and order and delinquency in GCSE units of work. We also explain rules and laws when we visit target language countries (FRANCE)

Individual Liberty -

Within MFL lessons, students are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. In MFL lessons we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make choices confidently and safely. Students are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised on how to exercise these safely, especially on MFL trips. This is also explored through our eSafety advice when corresponding with our French pen friends. In lessons and in written and spoken controlled assessments, we encourage students to express their individual views whilst respecting the views and choices of others

Mutual Respect –

Part of our ethos in the MFL classroom is to promote the core values of respect, reflection, resilience and resourcefulness. Pupils have been part of discussions during which they have actively demonstrated what these mean. We aspire to promote these values and increase the students' knowledge of the importance of mutual respect – in school, our local community, nationally and in the wider world. This is reiterated in our new behaviour policy within the MFL classroom. There are units

in the KS4 curriculum that focus on the effects on marginalisation which arises when mutual respect and tolerance does not exist and our students deepen their understanding of the very serious consequences of this.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs -

This is achieved through developing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. Across the key stages we study topics relating to tolerance. There are also units within the KS4 curriculum that focus on celebrations and customs of other faiths in the countries where the language being taught is spoken. Across all units, students are often encouraged to develop and reflect upon their own thoughts, beliefs and reactions using the French language, which is a particular focus at GCSE. Within this we create a safe space for students to share these ideas with their peers. Our MFL penfriends and overseas trips have also allowed our students to witness first hand other faiths and cultures. The school celebrates the many languages spoken by our pupils.