Catholic Social Teaching Statement

British Values

Family and Community

- For the Church, the family is core to its being. 'The Christian home is the place where children receive the first proclamation of the faith.' The hor its the first school of Christian life and 'a school for human enrichment.' (Catechism of the Catholic Church)
- Because of the central importance of the family, the Church is very clear in its expectations upon society and all those in positions of authority.
- This CST principle can also be broadened out beyond the family to the local national and global communities of which we are a part and what it means to be a neighbour our 'neighbours' are our family.
- We are the family of God. The Church's understanding of community is encapsulated in The Parable of the Good Samaritan.
- Members of the Church are expected to help build and strengthen society.

 Beyond the family we're called to participate fully in the life of wider society.

Definition from CAFOD:

Jesus knows that people can only be happy if they have families and friends. He tells us that we can let these important people help us. He asks us to help them too.

KS2:

Desus understood that people need each other. We all need our families, friends and neighbours. He tells us that these important people can help us. Desus says we must help them too. Doing this, we create a loving community where everyone can live life to the full.

Solidarity and the Common Good

- God has created us to live in communion with one another. it is through life with others that we can flourish.
- The Common Good is about our interdependence upon one another as equal members of the human race, and how society and its organisations and structures should be for the benefit of $\underline{\textbf{all}}.$ It can't help one or just some people to the detriment of other – it must be for the good of everybody
- Solidarity is part of the terminology used when talking about the Common Good. The word reminds us that. 'All are responsible for all.' 'John Paul II, <u>Sollicitudo</u> Rei <u>Socialis</u>, On Social Concern,
- This principle of the Common Good is seen as the basis for family life as well as within larger social structures such as $\ensuremath{\mathsf{a}}$ business and government.

Definition from CAFOD:

KS1:

All people are God's children. That makes us brothers and sisters. We are connected to each other. It is as if everyone in the world held hands! We can be very different from each other, but we are still one family—God's family.

KS2:

The world's peoples are interdependent. That means we need each other if we are to live. We must work together if we are to go on living. When we walk alongside our sisters and brothers around the world and learn from each other, we call this solidarity. Even though there are huge distances between us, we are still one family—the family of God.

Solidarity arises when we remember that we belong to each other. We reflect on this in a special way at Mass. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, "The Eucharist commits us to the poor. To receive in truth the Body and Blood of Christ given up for us, we must recognise Christ in the poorest."

Solidarity spurs us to stand side by side with our sisters and brothers, especially those living in poverty. The common good means that the fruits of the earth belong to everyone. No one should be excluded from the gifts of creation.

Respect for and tolerance of different faiths and religious and other beliefs

Mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith

A fair, objective and permissive attitude to those whose faith and beliefs may differ from one's own

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Respect for the basis on which the law is made and applies in England

Support for equality of opportunity for all

Rule of Law

Rule of Law means that all people and groups are ruled by the same laws which help to keep us all safe and happy.

Support and respect for the liberties of all within the law

Individual Liberty

Individual liberty is when people have the freedom to choose their faith, beliefs, likes and dislikes which are outside Government control.

Dignity of the human person

Respect for democracy and support or participation in the democratic process

Support and respect for the liberties of all within the law

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- We believe each person is made 'in the image and likeness of God's and the second of the second
- 'every person's life and dignity must be respected and supported from conception until the end of their natural life on earth.'
- This is about ensuring that there is nothing which prevents an individual from growing and flourishing in all aspects of their being and recognising and speaking out and taking action when this is not so.
- This includes issues around each stage of life and especially the protection of the life of the unborn and older members of community as well as those born with disabilities.
- It also links to how we view and treat other people in our everyday encounters: How do we recognise others as a child of God?
- As with all CST, these principles relate to all people at a local, national and global level and the Church calls upon us to be aware and act upon injustices and inequalities.

Definition from CAFOD:

KS1

God made each of us, which means each of us is very special. It is not important if you are tall or small, or happy or sad, or if you have many toys or no toys. What is important is that each of us is special because of God's love. And we must treat others in a caring way because they were made by God too.

KS2:

God made each one of us. This makes us incredibly special. It doesn't matter who we are, who our friends are, what we own, or what we look like. What matters is that we are special because we are God's children. This me

God is present in every human person, regardless of religion, culture, nationality, orientation or economic standing. Each one of us is unique and beautiful. We are called to treat every person and every creature with loving respect.

Democracu

Democracy is when a group of people have equal rights and the freedom to choose how they are treated, rather than when one person has all the power and makes all the decisions. It can also refer to the way in which we vote for the person or group we want to represent us.

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and applies in England

Dignity of the rights of workers

- Jesus himself worked as a carpenter before starting his
- References to work, particularly agricultural labour, run throughout scripture and it is seen as an important aspect of life.
- For the Church work is seen as a continuance of the gift of Creation whereby we are 'co-creators of God's world and work is part of our contribution. (Catechism of the Catholic Church)
- Work is also seen as something which brings dignity to the human person as it is the means of providing for his life and that of his family, and of serving the human community.' (Catechism)
- The Church also recognises and upholds the concept that work serves so that we can live and not the other way around.
- Another aspect of work which also links to the story of Creation, is the importance of rest. Periods of rest particularly on the Sabbath are important for the spiritual and mental well being of all. Time away from work allows the individual to be restored and revitalised and this time enables them to give of themselves to other aspects of their lives in the service of 6od and others.

the law

Support for equality of opportunity for all

Respect for the basis on which the law is made

Support and respect for the liberties of all within

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Rule of Law

Rule of Law means that all people and groups are ruled by the same laws which help to keep us all safe and happy.

Definition from CAFOD:

KS1:

All people work in some way. Their work should be safe and helpful to them because God made them. By our work, we help ourselves and others, and we show our love to God.

K52

Everyone's work is of value. There are many kinds of work. In each job, workers deserve to be treated with respect, work safely, work reasonable hours, and earn fair wages. They deserve this because they are made by God. Our work gives us the means to live, but it is also a chance to use the talents God gives us. Our work is our way of cooperating with God to help create a better work.

Rights and Responsibilities

- People have the right to live. And have their basic needs met. However, the church is also clear that a person can not have rights without responsibilities
- These responsibilities are enshrined in the Catechism as the Corporal Works of Mercy :

feeding the <u>hungry</u>, <u>sheltering</u> the <u>homeless</u>, <u>clothing</u> the <u>naked</u>, <u>visiting</u> the <u>sick</u> and <u>imprisoned</u>, and <u>burying</u> the <u>dead</u>. Among all these, <u>giving alms</u> to the <u>poor</u> is one of the <u>chief witnesses</u> to <u>fraternal charity</u>: it is also a <u>work</u> of <u>justice pleasing</u> to <u>God</u>.'

Respect for democracy and support or participation in the democratic process

Democracy

Democracy is when a group of people have equal rights and the freedom to choose how they are treated, rather than when one person has all the power and makes all the decisions. It can also refer to the way in which we vote for the person or group we want to represent us.

Respect for the basis on which the law is made and applies in England Support for equality of opportunity for all

Definition from CAFOD:

KS1:

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All of God's people need these things: food, work, clothes, a home, a school, and a doctor to help when they are sick. Every single person on earth needs these. Some people have what they need, but many people don't. Jes

KS2:

All God's people have the right to food, work, dothes, a home, school and medical care. These 'rights' are things that every person on earth needs in order to live a full life. But many people do not have them. Jesus wants people who enjoy these rights to help their sisters and brothers obtain their rights. It is not enough to feel badly for others. Jesus says it is our responsibility to see that everyone receives his or her rights.

The Catholic tradition teaches that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met. Therefore, every person has a fundamental right to life and a right to those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities—to one another, to our families, and to the larger society.

Rule of Law

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Option for the poor and vulnerable

- This is about the emphasis which the Church places upon helping the poor and those who are vulnerable. The Corporal Works of Mercy above highlights this.
- \circ This is something that we focus on a lot in school
- The work of the Church in this area is vast. There are many missionary orders and charities who provide for the physical and spiritual needs of people everywhere.
- Charitable and educative organisations such as CAFOD and
 Mission Together enable us to develop an understanding of
 poverty in all its forms across the world and to recognise
 the ways in which this can be challenged.
- An important aspect of this principle is about restoring dignity to people so that they are enabled to live and work independently.
- This principle is also rooted in our belief that the resources of the Earth belong to all, and therefore 'not to enable the poor to share in our goods is to steal from them and deprive them of life.'

Definition from CAFOD:

KS1

You need food, water, a house, your school, a good doctor and a job for the grown-up who takes care of you. So does everybody else on the whole Earth. But there are many people who do not have these things. Jesus wants us to take extra good care of these people.

KS2

Every person needs food, water, work, housing, school, and medical care. Those who do not have these are poor. Our Church teaches that these sisters and brothers must be treated with extra respect and extra care and have access to what they need. Those who are not poor must share what they have with others because the gifts of God's world are for all people.

The option for the poor reminds us of God's preferential love for the poorest and most vulnerable people. God's love is universal; he does not side with oppressors, but loves the humble.

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Stewardship of God's creation

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth

In the Creed we express our belief in God the Father as Creator.

In the story of Creation, the scriptural basis for this principle, God also gives the human race everything that is needed to sustain life for all living creatures and dominion over all of creation- see the Story of Creation

- The Church's teachings show that we have a duty to ensure that the gift of Creation is shared with all and used wisely and respectfully to ensure its protection both now and for the future.
- In <u>Laudato</u> Si, Pope Francis has reminded us that the earth is our 'Common Home':

Whether believers or not, we are agreed today that the earth is essentially a shared inheritance,

whose fruits are meant to benefit everyone. For believers, this becomes a question of fidelity to the Creator,

since God created the world for everyone.

In this encyclical, we are being asked to consider the way in which all aspects of our lives and relationships can be benefit of ourselves and ou own flourishing, but more importantly for the betterment of everyone and every living creature.

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How do the Catholic Social Teaching Statements link with British Values?

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God made the earth and sky. God made all the people all over the world. God made the spiders and dogs and butterflies and tigers and pandas and all the other animals. God made the tulips, the trees, the tomatoes and all the plants. And, God tells us we must	
take good care of them. It is an important job. KS2:	
The earth and all life on it is God's creation. We are called to take care of it because it is a holy git from God and the only place we can live. When we make bad or thoughtless use of the world's resources, many people suffer. When we make good choices about how we treat other living things (people, animals, plants) we help all living things to live as God intends. Making wise choices about the care of God's creation is called good stewardship.	