

The JCB Academy

Promoting British Values

Background and Rationale:

As a response to the varied threats that our society has faced from extremist groups in recent years under the heading of 'The Prevent Agenda' the British Government directed that all schools should promote a concept it has entitled "British Values".

The Government defines British Values as being:

- **Democracy**
- **The Rule of Law**
- **Individual Liberty**
- **Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those with different Faiths and Beliefs**

The above values form part of The JCB Academy ethos and as such are promoted to our students in a variety of ways, which are detailed below.

The Academy aims to promote and safeguard a school culture which embraces change, difference and individual choice. Freedom of speech is a fundamental British Value and one which The Academy fully endorses, we challenge any students whose behaviour demonstrates a lack of regard for these concepts and condemn views which could be considered racist, homophobic or extreme.

It is important to acknowledge that these values won't be assumed because a school demands that they are; they have to be arrived at through mutual exploration and understanding.

We have displays around our school community which support British Values and express to staff and students that our environment is one which will not tolerate extremism or divisive behaviour; we believe that every individual has the right to express their views and opinions in a safe way.

Democracy:

Democracy is where a society is characterised by a range of rights and privileges promoted through an electoral system.

The Academy promotes the importance of democracy through things such as:

- The Academy Council which has elected student representatives from each year group
- PSHEE Citizenship sessions which educate students on their democratic rights and responsibilities in readiness for when they become eligible to vote
- Student voice is actively promoted and we seek students views on many aspects of school life
- Students are encouraged to work collaboratively with their peers and in response to teacher feedback
- All students have the opportunity to access the curriculum

The Rule of Law:

All individuals and institutions are subject to laws that are applied and enforced fairly.

The Academy promotes the importance of the rule of law in the following ways:

- The Behaviour Policy
- We liaise with external agencies that work within a legal context such as Social Care and the Police
- Staff are accountable in terms of the Code of Conduct, their job descriptions and for the duties they are required to complete
- Students have an Acceptable Use Policy for their use of the internet whilst in school
- Students have a Code of Conduct Agreement for their use of Academy transport
- PSHEE sessions educate and inform students around the legal elements in respect of issues which impact on their lives such as consent, drug use; alcohol use etc.

Individual Liberty:

Individual liberty is a term which encompasses the free exercise of rights which are generally considered to be outside the control of the law.

The Academy promotes and upholds individual liberty in the following ways:

- Students are introduced to a range of ideologies and experiences enabling them to make informed choices for themselves
- Students are taught the range of skills they need to assert their independence, voice their opinions and debate their ideas with others in a healthy and positive way
- We offer a range of extra-curricular activities enabling our students to make choices to pursue their individual interests and enthusiasms
- Students are encouraged to voice their views and opinions in lessons
- Students are encouraged and supported to make their own choices in respect of subject options studied, work experience placements and career aspirations
- Students can exercise choice in respect of their food choices

Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those with different Faiths and Beliefs:

This refers to individual and societal respect of different religions and faith practices and beliefs.

The Academy is a diverse community and we encourage all our students to respect the religious and cultural views of others in the following ways:

- The Anti-Bullying Policy
- PSHEE workshops on anti-bullying
- Promoting National Anti-bullying week across The Academy
- House Time Sessions which inform students about different religions
- Opportunities for overseas travel enables students to engage in alternative cultures
- We have a multi-faith reflection zone accessible to students who wish to pray or engage in spiritual reflection during their school day
- Assemblies celebrate a wide range of beliefs
- Our restaurant promotes and celebrates cuisines from a range of cultures