**British Values**

**At LSA we aim to work with students to effectively weave a deep understanding of British Values into learning. Our strategy for delivering this is embedded throughout our work in Citizenship, PSHE, across the curriculum and in More Than Grades events.**

The government set out their definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy which were reinforced in September 2014. These regulations sit alongside the requirements of the Equalities Act, which also applies to all types of schools.

The 5 fundamental British Values are:

* Democracy
* The rule of law
* Individual liberty
* Mutual respect
* Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

**Citizenship at LSA**

At LSA we aim to deliver a high-quality citizenship education that supports all our pupils in acquiring the knowledge, skills and understanding to ensure they become responsible citizens, able to play their part in society fully.

Our citizenship education helps to develop pupils’ awareness and understanding of democracy, government and how laws are made & upheld, alongside citizens’ rights and responsibilities.\*  (Please find the details of the National Curriculum for Citizenship below.)

In KS3 Citizenship is delivered through a series of off timetable events and ***“Life”*** (PSHE) lessons. In KS4 Citizenship is delivered in ***Law, Politics and Society*** lessons which take place once a fortnight and in wider experiences offered through ***Careers (CEIAG)*** and ***More Than Grades*** events.

In both key stages a deeper understanding of citizenship is developed across a range of subjects where the key knowledge\* is a key part of the curriculum. For example in English when studying Animal Farm or in History when studying Weimar Germany etc

**Student Leadership**

The Pupil Council is a vibrant group that effects real change within school. They meet fortnightly and the events are chaired by pupils. Once a half term these sessions are with the Deputy Head (Personal Development). Executive positions of Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary are elected by the Student Council with Year Group Reps who work alongside them. Once a term the Student Council organises a “Student Voice - Full Session” where pupils representing each form in school are invited to an event in the Assembly Hall with a panel of speakers, where they can discuss a given issue. These have included the behaviour system, mental health and the environment among others.

**More Than Grades**

In each year of school, the LSA More than Grades Programme seeks to introduce every pupil to new experiences or events out with the classroom in each of the following 6 areas. The Leadership and Citizenship opportunities offered to pupils support their understanding of citizenship and the ways in which citizens work together to improve their communities.

* **Aspiration & Careers**
* **Love of Learning**
* **Leadership & Citizenship**
* **Sport**
* **STEM**
* **The Arts**

We believe that the skills required to become active citizens are developed by pupils getting involved as citizens of the school and so opportunities such as joining a student leadership group, attending a Pupil Voice Full Session, joining a committee, taking part in Duke of Edinburgh or supporting the charity work in school are highly valued.

**Elections**

In election or referendum years, we have a strong tradition of running a whole school election where all pupils are taken to the polling station on The Mezzanine Floor to cast their votes, mirroring the adult voting experience and supporting them in understanding what will happen when they vote for the first time. Under normal circumstances this should obviously only happen once in a pupil’s secondary school life. LSA held whole school elections on 7th May 2015, 8th June 2017 and on 12th December 2019. We also held a whole school referendum on the EU on 23rd June 2016.

“The UK Democracy ” sessions precede any such whole school election in Form Time so that pupils learn how the electoral system works and have access to Party Political Manifestos etc. In the last 2 General Elections we have been fortunate enough to hold a hustings with all the local candidates, including the sitting MP, in attendance.

In 2020 pupils were also taught about the U.S. Election during Form Time and results were shred after election day.

**The National Curriculum for Citizenship**

**Key stage 3**

Teaching should develop pupils’ understanding of democracy, government and the rights and responsibilities of citizens. Pupils should use and apply their knowledge and understanding while developing skills to research and interrogate evidence, debate and evaluate viewpoints, present reasoned arguments and take informed action.

Pupils should be taught about:

* the development of the political system of democratic government in the United Kingdom, including the roles of citizens, Parliament and the monarch
* the operation of Parliament, including voting and elections, and the role of political parties
* the precious liberties enjoyed by the citizens of the United Kingdom
* the nature of rules and laws and the justice system, including the role of the police and the operation of courts and tribunals
* the roles played by public institutions and voluntary groups in society, and the ways in which citizens work together to improve their communities, including opportunities to participate in school-based activities
* the functions and uses of money, the importance and practice of budgeting, and managing risk

## **Key stage 4**

Teaching should build on the key stage 3 programme of study to deepen pupils’ understanding of democracy, government and the rights and responsibilities of citizens. Pupils should develop their skills to be able to use a range of research strategies, weigh up evidence, make persuasive arguments and substantiate their conclusions. They should experience and evaluate different ways that citizens can act together to solve problems and contribute to society.

Pupils should be taught about:

* parliamentary democracy and the key elements of the constitution of the United Kingdom, including the power of government, the role of citizens and Parliament in holding those in power to account, and the different roles of the executive, legislature and judiciary and a free press
* the different electoral systems used in and beyond the United Kingdom and actions citizens can take in democratic and electoral processes to influence decisions locally, nationally and beyond
* other systems and forms of government, both democratic and non-democratic, beyond the United Kingdom
* local, regional and international governance and the United Kingdom’s relations with the rest of Europe, the Commonwealth, the United Nations and the wider world
* human rights and international law
* the legal system in the UK, different sources of law and how the law helps society deal with complex problems
* diverse national, regional, religious and ethnic identities in the United Kingdom and the need for mutual respect and understanding
* the different ways in which a citizen can contribute to the improvement of their community, to include the opportunity to participate actively in community volunteering, as well as other forms of responsible activity
* income and expenditure, credit and debt, insurance, savings and pensions, financial products and services, and how public money is raised and spent