

Promoting British Values at St Andrew's Academy

In 2011 the Government set out some values as part of the 'Prevent' Strategy. It says:

'All have a duty to 'actively promote' the fundamental British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.'

We pride ourselves on the breadth and balance of our curriculum for all groups of students. It is carefully planned to ensure that it not only meets Government requirements in terms of the range of subjects taught, but also provides our students with rich learning experiences and prepares them for life in modern Britain.

We promote fundamental British Values through our ethos, the curriculum and through Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development. Our commitment to promoting British Values is constantly evolving and changing as a reflection of the students within our school and the changing society in which we live. Outlined below is how we promote each value at St Andrew's Academy:

Democracy

Throughout the curriculum we demonstrate democracy in action, for example, through our Student Voice programme. This gives our students the opportunity to work alongside Derby Youth Council debating new initiatives and deciding what is important to implement in our school. Students also take part each year in voting for Derby City Council's Youth Mayor, developing their own reasoning and opinions.

At St Andrew's Academy, all staff members encourage our young people to share their views, value one another's ideas and question ideas through enquiry-lead learning. This is supported through our PSHE and RSE sessions, through the use of Learning for Life Skills throughout school, speaking and listening sessions in Literacy and Team Challenge sessions where collaboration, communication, sharing and turn-taking is taught and applied in a range of contexts.

Other ways that we promote democracy include:

- Everything we offer at our school is accessed and enjoyed by all students, irrespective of the caste, creed or religion.
- All students are given equal opportunities to participate in school competitions, projects and activities without any bias or discrimination.
- Student Council and the Derby Youth Mayor Election enable students to select their student leader and vote freely and democratically.
- All students are given equal opportunities to voice their doubts/queries, to stand up for anything that is wrong and express their opinions and ideas.
- Our curriculum is designed to promote democracy - this includes debate sessions in many subjects, including RE.

The Rule of Law

Students at St Andrew's Academy are encouraged to take responsibility for their own behaviour and are given tools and strategies to help them identify and manage their feelings. Students are also encouraged to be aware of the behaviour and feelings of others. At the beginning of every year, classes for which it is appropriate create a charter where all members of the class contribute to identifying their rights and responsibilities, and any rules they feel are appropriate for their classroom.

We have high expectations of student conduct and this is reflected in our Behaviour Policy. Students are rewarded for excellent behaviour with certificates in Key Stage 3 and with 'special mentions' in Key Stage 4 and 5, involving members of the SLT team.

Through PSHE, RE and RSE, our students are taught how to earn trust and respect and are supported to develop a strong sense of morality, knowing right from wrong and doing the right thing, even when it is difficult. 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.

Other ways that we promote the rule of law include local PCSO visits to the school to talk to students about their role in society. This is also addressed throughout the curriculum.

Individual Liberty

Through our Learning for Life curriculum, students are taught about personal responsibility, choices, ambition and aspiration. We provide opportunities for our young people to develop their self-esteem and increase their confidence in their own abilities. Students are offered the opportunity to develop their own interests through a wide variety of experiences and topics with access to After School clubs in Key Stages 3 and 4, where they can pursue a range of interests such as art, singing, physical activity etc, to promote self-expression.

As a school we are a safe environment to enable students to express themselves freely and to make choices throughout the curriculum, thereby providing an empowering education. Students are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms, as well as being advised how to exercise these safely, for example, in learning about e-Safety.

Furthermore, taster sessions are provided throughout the school year by external providers (such as Taiko drumming, Pound classes, Sinfonia Viva Orchestra, Baby People music composition, visiting poets, etc) to give all our young people the opportunity to learn about and explore different interests.

Students at St Andrew's Academy are at the heart of the learning process and staff that know them well are skilled at supporting them in identifying their strengths and areas for development, implementing next steps and setting targets. Our young people are often involved with co-constructing their own curriculum, where they can negotiate and collaborate with the class teacher to organise learning to meet their individual needs. Some Key Stage 4 and 5 students initiate their own learning and pursue their own interests through continuous provision. Through the curriculum our students are encouraged to be independent learners and have a range of strategies to support this independence.

Other ways that we promote individual liberty:

- Students are offered choices in their learning across the curriculum in order for them to take personal responsibility for negotiating their next steps.
- All students are invited to attend and contribute to their person-centred review meeting, when their EHCP gets updated.
- Students are encouraged to share their opinions and ideas through the curriculum, but also through questionnaires from Shaw Education Trust.
- Through assemblies, PSHE and the computing curriculum and wherever possible outside agencies, our young people are taught how to keep themselves safe, including e-Safety.
- Students can ask for help whenever they require it.
- Expressive arts is an important part of the curriculum and this allows all students of every age and ability to access and explore their learning.

Mutual Respect

At St Andrew's Academy, mutual respect is at the heart of our ethos and values. There are many opportunities to develop SMSC across the curriculum, for example, through RE, PE, PSHE, Art, Music, History, Geography, Numeracy and Literacy.

All members of our school community are encouraged to treat each other with respect and we publish our Behaviour Policy on our website.

Our functional learning activities aim to promote collaboration, communication and negotiation, all essential to supporting students' respectful interactions with their peers and grown-ups. Through our PSHE curriculum, our young people explore how they are similar and different to their peers and are encouraged to develop tolerant behaviours, for example, respecting different views to their own and sharing with others.

Mutual respect and friendship is further explored through our anti-bullying learning. All year groups explore an anti-bullying unit of learning every year to further develop understanding about the importance of respectful and

trusting relationships and friendships. We also have an Anti-Bullying week each year, which all students join in with as a school community.

Other ways that we promote mutual respect:

- We treat all of our students with dignity and respect, irrespective of their abilities and needs.
- Respecting students' needs and showing consideration towards them, being concerned about them, appreciating them, relating to them, admiring their strengths and caring for them.

Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs

St Andrew's Academy is an inclusive school that values and promotes individuals and what makes each person special and unique. We are a culturally rich and diverse school where students have unique opportunities to learn from each other by sharing their different faiths and cultures. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and throughout the whole school.

Students learn about different religions, their beliefs and places of worship, festivals and celebrations. Visits are made by religious leaders and students have the opportunity to visit places of worship. Throughout the curriculum and assemblies, our young people mark and celebrate significant religious festivals such as Christmas, Chinese New Year, Eid and Diwali. The cultures and beliefs of all our students, no matter what their cultural background of beliefs or no beliefs, are explored and celebrated during curriculum time.

Other ways that we promote tolerance of different faiths and beliefs:

- As part of Geography learning, our students learn about different people, places and cultures. In Key Stage 3, students learn about Africa and China and in Key Stage 4 they look at exploring countries and their cultures.
- Staff promote diverse attitudes and challenge stereotypes through their selection of a wide range of resources and texts.

BRITISH VALUES POLICY

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