British Values at The Dorcan Academy



At The Dorcan Academy we pride ourselves on celebrating and promoting our diverse community with its many different ethnicities and religions. We believe that students should be given the opportunity to explore the issue of diversity and understand Britain as a multi-cultural society. We provide a safe learning environment where students can raise controversial questions and concerns without fear of reprimand or ridicule and explore boundaries of what is acceptable. In doing so we stimulate an open attitude to multi-cultural and race issues that in itself demonstrates British Values at work.

Alongside The Dorcan Academy's Core values and SMSC ethos, through our SMSC provision we promote core British Values such as: Democracy; The rule of law; Individual liberty; Mutual respect and Tolerance of those of different faiths, beliefs and backgrounds. We achieve this by:

- Empowering students to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and selfconfidence.
- Empowering students to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England.
- Encouraging students to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the school community as well as our local and global community.
- Empowering respect for other people and encouraging respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the law that is made and applied in England.
- Creating a community that shows tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by empowering students to obtain an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures.

British Value	How we promote British Values
Democracy	Student voice:
A system of government that involves people in decision making e.g. voting to elect representatives to Parliament.	Students are elected to Year councils and the School council where they discuss and debate topics within the school. These elected members of the school contribute enormously to school life.
	The Head teacher regularly holds 'Come Dine with Me' lunches with students to discuss current issues. In addition, students are involved in discussions regarding the development and improvement of the school making sure that all members of the school's community can 'Aspire to Greatness'.
	Head boy, Head girl and school ambassadors:
	Students in year 10 take part in an election process to decide who The Dorcan Academy's Senior Ambassadors are going to be. They promote the school's Core Values; SMSC Ethos and British Values.
	Mock elections:
	Students take part in mock elections based on important decisions the country is facing, for example, which political party they wish to rule the country.
	Surveys:
	Students and staff are consulted on issues using Survey monkey and through regular learning walks to develop the quality of teaching and learning.
	Agreed principles:
	Students are involved in developing and agreeing whole school Principles and polices. For example, the 12 principles of Teaching and Learning.
	Progression evenings:
	We have regular progression evenings where we seek opinions and feedback for improvement from parents and guardians.
	Curriculum:
	All departments promote the importance of democracy and the way to apply democratic rights. This can be seen through formal letters to those in authority, speeches and debates.
	The Global Learning curriculum actively teaches about rights and responsibilities in historical context to demonstrate the growth of

	 democracy and human rights in 21st Century Britain. This ranges from issues such as the fight for the vote in Britain, to investigating the struggle for democracy in other countries and cultures around the world. SMSC Curriculum: Students are involved in understanding what democracy means and actively engage in British democracy by voting on issues facing Britain as a country. Assemblies: We have a full assembly programme based on a termly SMSC, PSHE or Careers focus. The assemblies promote the value of being a democracy and reflect on the meaning of not having the freedom to vote or be heard.
Rule of Law	Promotion of Core values and Personal attributes
Restricting arbitrary power with clear laws, applying equally to all.	We pride ourselves on our Core values and Personal Attributes. These set us a code of honour that all members of the school community follow. We value:
	Belonging – In order to succeed every member of our community needs to feel special, valued, worthy of investment and believe that they have unique skills and talents to contribute. Self -esteem and a belief in one's own abilities to achieve academically, personally and socially are key to effective learning. Our aim is for students to feel part of a group while knowing they are special for who they are – just like in a family. The wearing of our uniform helps to create a sense of belonging and we encourage all students to take pride in them self and in the Academy. Our new House system to be introduced in September 2016 further develops this value.
	Purpose – We believe that all students are born for greatness and are destined to achieve great things. Discovering our strengths, talents and interests are vital to understanding our purpose in life and in becoming the best version of ourselves that we can be. We challenge our students to 'make a difference' to, not only their own lives, but those of others.
	Aspiration – We know that students who are motivated and who have a sense of purpose achieve well. We therefore encourage our students to 'dream big' and to believe that nothing is impossible. Our strapline is 'Aspire to Greatness'. We offer expert careers advice and seek to build on our students' strengths. Through our curriculum we seek to foster a sense of curiosity, creativity and a desire to learn new things. At The Dorcan Academy we want our students to aim high; we promote and develop skills of leadership and encourage students to make decisions and take responsibility for their choices and actions. This includes setting goals and taking the steps needed to reach them. Our Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme enables students to pursue their interests and gain these vital skills.

Perseverance – We want our students to learn that life is not always easy but that they can overcome the most difficult challenges and become a better person through it. Success takes hard work and sometimes involves failure. We aim to foster a 'Spirit of adventure', where students are excited to try new things, even if they don't know that they will excel or experience failure. We want our students to develop resilience and to never give up on their dreams.

Achievement – We believe that *everyone* is intelligent and can achieve. We want all of our students to do as well as they can academically because it will open the doors of opportunity to them, however, we are clear that it is not where you start or end that counts, but the journey to get there and what you learn on the way that is the most important achievement. Achievement is more than a set of examination results – success comes in many different forms, including effort and is different for every person. Everyone is destined to be great at something and discovering what that is, is part of the joy of learning. We pride ourselves on celebrating achievement in all its forms.

Our **Personal Attributes** are qualities we aspire for all members of our academy to demonstrate – both students and staff - in order to be model British citizens within our local community and globally.

Justice: A strong sense of right and wrong, a willingness to stand up for what is right and to challenge unfairness and injustice both in school and in our local community. This includes taking responsibility for our actions.

Honesty: Speaking and acting truthfully in order that justice prevails. Honesty needs to be combined with respect for others.

Integrity: Doing what is morally right with the best intentions for others in mind. Walking the talk and being a role model for others. Integrity and honesty are inextricably linked.

Confidence: Having the freedom to speak and act according to your principles and a belief in your own ability to succeed.

Responsibility: Being accountable for your actions, your decisions and your learning, Engaging in and playing your part as a member of the school community.

Independence: Shows initiative and is relied upon to demonstrate high personal standards and to take action to progress your own learning without the supervision of others.

Respect: Treating everyone as you would wish to be treated.

	Attendance and Uniform:
	Our Attendance policy and Uniform Policy teaches young people about basic rules in society and the workplace.
	Safeguarding and whistle blowing:
	The Dorcan Academy is relentless on safeguarding and encourages 'whistle blowing' from staff and students when it is felt that rules are not being upheld.
	Curriculum
	Our PE curriculum facilitates good understanding of rules of play by explaining concepts of fair play, participation and refereeing. Through lesson activities students apply their understanding of school rules whilst promoting core British Values.
	PSHE Curriculum
	Students investigate what healthy relationships are and the laws regarding relationships in Britain.
	Vivo rewards
	Our reward system acknowledges good behaviour as well as good academic work which encourages students to ensure they try to be the best version of themselves every day.
	Police visits
	Our close relationship with the local police force enables them to support our behaviour policy. In addition, they talk to our students to reinforce the laws of our country so they understand the difference between right and wrong.
Individual Liberty	The right to access equal learning opportunities:
The ability of individuals to freely exercise rights, with responsibility.	Students are encouraged to make rapid progress as emphasised by our school's vision: 'Aspire to Greatness'. Students from disadvantaged backgrounds are supported through interventions and extra support to ensure they are enabled to achieve their hopes and aspirations.
	Agreed polices and principles:
	Students respect the value and reasons behind the highly visible policies such as our 12 principles of teaching and learning and our behaviour policy.
	The right not to tolerate bullying at school:
	Our 12 steps to stop the bully clearly demonstrates The Dorcan

Academy's stance on bullying. We fully believe that all members of our
school community should feel safe and be free to express themselves (within school rules) so that they can 'Aspire to Greatness'.
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Empowering individuality:
Students are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms in a responsible way through assemblies, PSHE lessons and our SMSC program.
Freedom and opportunity
Students are actively encouraged, and given the freedom to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. For example, curriculum option choices in year 8 and year 9. Students also have the opportunity to take part in a range of extra-curricular activities allowing them to express themselves outside of the classroom as well as within.
Charity fundraising activities:
Through fundraising activities like the Christmas Shoe Box campaign and regular Food Bank collections it allows students to exercise their views in a responsible way about the inequalities in our local and global community.
Curriculum:
All departments develop students' voice through effective expression and imagination. This is seen through speech, creative writing and the ability for students to express themselves using appropriate language.
Our Expressive arts curriculum promotes the skills of self-confidence, self- esteem and creativity amongst our students as seen through our school productions.
Our Global Learning curriculum teaches the growth of human rights and responsibilities in a number of historical and cultural contexts including current issues such as radicalisation and freedom of speech.
Our English curriculum allows our students to study a range of literature for example 'Of Mice and Men' which raises deep questions about society.
SMSC Curriculum
Through Tutor time and Extended Tutor time activities students evaluate people's individual liberties. This has been achieved through projects like 'Send my friend to school' and an in -depth look at Civil Rights.
Educational visits:
Trips to the Somme battlefields and Remembrance ceremonies at The

	Dorcan Academy to mark WWI Armistice Day help students reflect on a range of British values.
Mutual Respect	Our non-selective school:
The ability to resolve differences and build good relationships between each other.	We aim to provide high quality teaching and learning for all. All members of our local and global community are welcome to attend. Our school community is based on respect and inclusivity for all.
	Learning ethos:
	Our strapline 'Aspire to Greatness' encourages all members of our community to support our students in achieving their goals. This is reinforced through our Core values and Personal attributes that we encourage all to follow.
	Challenging views contrary to fundamental British values:
	Students, staff and parents who express opinions contrary to fundamental British values and incidents of prejudice are recorded, actively followed up and monitored through our reporting system.
	PSHE and SMSC
	Our PSHE curriculum promotes healthy relationships between family, friends and partners. Our SMSC programme develops a sense of unity within our school, locally, nationally and as a global community but also challenges injustices in controlled ways so these can be resolved in a way that promotes British Values.
	Encouraging & respecting views from all members of our community:
	Through Year council and School council meetings, staff Survey monkeys, Parents' dialogue, progression evenings, Governor meetings and our links to local schools we develop a community based on respect and mutual trust.
	Curriculum:
	All departments create active learning environments where students learn to work cooperatively; this includes ways of working when engaging with difficult topics. This is achieved by pair- share activities and discussion forums as part of our everyday teaching.
	All staff and students are encouraged and taught to challenge harmful or discriminatory behaviour.
	Students are helped to acquire an understanding of, and respect for, their

	own and other cultures and ways of life throughout the RE curriculum at Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4.
	Our Expressive Arts curriculum teaches cooperative attitudes to learning and the exploration of difference through drama.
	Our PE and Sports Curriculums ensure the principles of fair play and competitive games which teaches about winning with respect and losing with dignity.
Tolerance of those with different	Appreciating uniqueness and individuality
faiths & beliefs Accepting people of all different	Students appreciate and respect their own and other cultures. This is achieved through enhancing student understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving students opportunities to experience such diversity.
backgrounds, beliefs and faiths.	Curriculum:
	All departments promote tolerance within their curriculums so that people of all different faiths and beliefs are respected and accepted.
	Our English curriculum focuses on a wide range of literature that challenges stereotypes and promotes empathy and understanding about the lives of others. For example, 'Of Mice and Men' as well as other literature from our own heritage.
	The major world religions are studied as part of our RE curriculum.
	Our Global Learning curriculum allows students to study people from all over the world examining their faith and beliefs. It also allows students to explore how Britain has progressed into a multicultural society that accepts those of different faiths and beliefs.
	SMSC Curriculum
	Through Tutor time and Extended Tutor time students investigate other cultures to develop their understanding of the multicultural society we live in today, both locally, nationally and as a global community.
	Assemblies
	Through themed assemblies tolerance is examined through several assembly themes such as immigration, radicalisation and gay rights.

Core British Values

