

## PROMOTING BRITISH VALUES

### Background and rationale

As a response to the varied threats society has faced from extremist groups in recent and historic years under the heading of *The Prevent Agenda*, the British Government continues to direct that all schools promote the embedded concept known as the “British Values”.

The Government defines British Values as being:

1. Democracy
2. The rule of law
3. Individual liberty
4. Mutual respect
5. 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 learners in a variety of ways, which are detailed below.

The JCB 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 JCB Academy fully endorses; we challenge any learners 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 learners 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.

We adopt a zero tolerance for any breaches of such values and embed them within our behaviour management policy.

All staff are also encouraged to link in and build in British Values in all lessons.

### Democracy

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

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

- The learner council which has elected learner representatives from each year group
- PSHEE Citizenship sessions which educate learners on their democratic rights and responsibilities in readiness for when they become eligible to vote
- Learner voice is actively promoted and learners' views are sought on many aspects of school life, both through internal processes and via an external consultant and surveys.
- Learners are encouraged to work collaboratively with their peers and in response to teacher feedback.
- All learners have the opportunity to access the curriculum.

- Learner prefects.
- Behaviour management.
- Personal development, PSHE carousels, external speakers.
- Assemblies.

### **The rule of law**

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

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

- The Behaviour Management 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.
- Learners have an acceptable use policy for their use of the internet whilst in school.
- Learners have a code of conduct agreement for their use of the academy transport.
- PSHEE sessions educate and inform learners around the legal elements in respect of issues which impact on their lives such as consent, drug use, alcohol use.
- CALM and NON-NEGOTIABLE points designed by Learner Council.
- CALM posters to promote the rule of law.
- Assemblies.

### **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 JCB Academy promotes and upholds individual liberty in the following ways:

- Learners are introduced to a range of ideologies and experiences enabling them to make informed choices for themselves, opportunity for discussion and understanding of varying view points.
- Learners 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 learners to make choices to pursue their individual interests and enthusiasms.
- Learners are encouraged to voice their views and opinions in lessons.
- Learners are encouraged and supported to make their own choices in respect of subject options studied, work experience placements and career aspirations.
- Learners can exercise choice in respect of their food choices.
- Learner Council, learner voice, SLT discussions and feedback.

## **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 JCB Academy is a diverse community and we encourage all our learners to respect the religious and cultural views of others in the following ways:

- The Behaviour Management Policy.
- The Anti-Bullying Policy.
- PSHEE workshops on anti-bullying.
- Promoting National Anti-bullying Week across the academy.
- Personal development sessions which inform learners about different religions.
- Opportunities for overseas travel enables learners to engage in alternative cultures.
- We have a multi-faith reflection zone accessible to learners who wish to pray or engage in spiritual reflection during their school day.
- Learners attend an annual carol service.
- Assemblies celebrate a wide range of beliefs.
- Our restaurant promotes and celebrates cuisines from a range of cultures.