

## **Promoting British Values at Bishopshalt**

At Bishopshalt we embrace our wider role in preparing students for their adult life beyond the formal examined curriculum. Part of our role in that preparation is ensuring that we promote and reinforce British values to our students. The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy (see separate Prevent Strategy document) and considered them to be democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs. At Bishopshalt these values are reinforced in an explicit manner, are woven through our curriculum and permeate the school community. The examples that follow are an indication of some of the many ways we seek to embed British values at Bishopshalt and should be seen as an indication of our approach rather than an exhaustive list.

### **Democracy**

At Bishopshalt the principle of democracy is consistently reinforced and is explored in Sociology, Law, Government and Politics, History and Religious Studies as well as in form time and assemblies. Students have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our Student Council, surveys and questionnaires. Sixth Form students describe their learning experience to their teachers through an annual learning observation survey.

### **The rule of law**

Our students will encounter rules and laws throughout their lives. We want them to understand that whether these laws govern the class, the school, the neighbourhood or the country, they are set for good reason and they must adhere to them. Students were involved in the creation of the school behaviour rules and this helped them to understand the reasons behind them and the consequences if they are broken. The behaviour 'Rainbow' chart makes the rules explicitly clear in a format that all can understand. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Parliamentarians are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message. We also promote the value of the rule of law through a range of wider curriculum activities, such as our whole school Remembrance Assembly which includes local veterans groups and representatives of Corps from within the school.

### **Individual liberty**

At Bishopshalt, students are actively encouraged to make independent choices, knowing that they are in a safe, secure and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for students to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Students are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and receive advice about how to exercise these safely, for example through our exploration of E-Safety in Computing and form time activities. We educate them to make choices about their curriculum options that, whilst guided, still allow them free choices.

### **Mutual respect**

Respect and care for one another is at the core of our school ethos and is modelled by students and staff alike. The school promotes respect for others and it is reiterated through our classroom and learning environments. In line with our commitment to democracy students at Bishopshalt are always able to voice their opinions and we foster an environment where students are safe to

respectfully disagree with each other. Mutual respect is embraced throughout the curriculum from the concept of 'fair play' in PE to a number of 'buddy' programmes which promote mutual respect between students across different year groups within the school. The school is a Stonewall Champion school and we are committed to embodying equality in a practical way.

### **Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs**

This is achieved through equipping students with the ability to understand their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity within the school community and beyond. Our Religious Studies curriculum provides a broad and balanced education on a range of faiths, religions and cultures. We also celebrate the religious traditions of a range of faiths in Assemblies and the Citizenship programme. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in all subjects. Regular visits, including abroad, enhance students' perceptions of the world around them as well as of their local area.'

Should you feel that the school is not meeting this requirement, you should contact the school office and request to express your concerns with the Headteacher. Likewise, if you feel that anyone working at the school is undermining these values you should report this to the Headteacher.