

Promoting British Values at Fullbrook

Introduction

The Department for Education has developed legislation and guidance for schools to *'promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, , equality of opportunity, freedom of speech, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.'*

The full legislation can be found at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/380595/SMSC_Guidance_Maintained_Schools.pdf

Here at Fullbrook, these values are central to all we do and are encapsulated within our Mission Statement:

- Fullbrook students will become responsible adults who understand their worth, achieve their full potential and are able to make a positive contribution to the global community.
- Fullbrook will be an outstanding school, offering a broad and balanced curriculum.
- Fullbrook students, staff and our community will enjoy learning and leisure in an inspiring and forward-looking environment.

We believe that each of our students deserves an education which allows them to play their full part as British citizens who contribute to and enjoy the best of what our society has to offer. In providing this we promote British values throughout our taught curriculum, routines, policies and overall ethos.

The purpose of this statement is to illustrate some of the ways in which Fullbrook promotes British Values within our community and not give the finite detail behind each strategy within the following areas:

- 1. Democracy**
- 2. The Rule of Law**
- 3. Individual liberty, Equality of Opportunity & Freedom of Speech.**
- 4. Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.**

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1. Democracy

The democratic process is a very important aspect of many areas of school life:

- Students experience democracy in practice throughout the year in a range of elections that all students are encouraged and rewarded for taking part in. These votes are used to decide on House Captains, Vice House Captains and School Council members.
- We also introduce the proportional representation voting system with house elections. Election of our School Officials by fellow students – Head Girl, Head Boy, Deputy Head Boy and Deputy Head Girl
- The Personal, Social, Health, Careers and Economic Education (PSHCEE) curriculum provides the opportunity for students to learn about the democratic process, including the functioning of democratic institutions such as the British Parliament. This is studied by all students during six ‘Deep Learning Days’ calendared throughout the year.
- The tutor programme which features “In the news” is an opportunity for students to find out about and discuss various issues in current affairs.
- Assembly themes highlight issues of democracy in our society
- The struggle for democracy in Britain and in other nations throughout history is dealt with extensively in the History curriculum and through discussions on the nature of authority in Religious Education lessons.

2. The Rule of Law

- Students are taught to respect one another and staff members through the school conduct policy summarised in ‘The Fullbrook Way’ and in lessons through the ‘Behaviour for Learning’ policy. This is re-enforced throughout all year groups at Fullbrook. Although we cannot take full responsibility for irresponsible social behaviour we do investigate where appropriate.
- The use of power, justice and individual responsibilities is regularly addressed in assemblies, tutor activities, SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural) activities and in “Deep Learning Days” (where students are taken off time table to experience alternative activities.)

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- The first project that the year 7 students will complete in ICT & Computing class is an e-safety project that addresses the law and safety online, making them responsible digital citizens. The subject of e-safety and legislation is continued throughout all year groups.
- The history of our legal system is taught through the History curriculum and students consider the problems of criminal behaviour in Geography and PSHCEE in which the legal aspects of drug awareness and sexual health are also discussed.
- We work closely with our local Policing team who arrange prison visits and anti-crime awareness days.

3. Individual liberty, Equality of Opportunity & Freedom of Speech.

- The extra-curricular activities and work in Physical Education in particular, encourages students to support one another and take on leadership roles and work as a team regardless of background or ability.
- Eikon is a children's charity that works on-site and deals with issues students may have but may want to speak with a councillor that they do not have daily interaction with. This promotes freedom of speech and also offers equality of opportunity. Eikon's aim is to provide socially and economically disadvantaged young people with the support and skills they need to overcome challenges and fulfil their potential in later life. Eikon offers one-to-one mentoring sessions, group work, support groups, summer outdoor activities and youth development board.
- The equality of all people is an issue addressed in assemblies and across the curriculum. Issues of race, gender, sexuality, disability and religion are considered extensively throughout the PSHCEE curriculum, in History through the study of topics such as the Holocaust and the Civil Rights movement.
- In English students study texts which focus on issues of equality from 'To Kill a Mocking Bird' to 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' and they are encouraged to enter into debates on the nature of equality and fairness.

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- Fullbrook raises awareness about Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender and Questioning equality and promotes the acceptance that people have different sexual preferences.
- Fullbrook adheres to the 'The Single Equality Scheme' which requires schools to consider the 'General' and 'Specific' duties in promoting equality across the full range of protected characteristics, namely: Sex, Race, Disability, Sexual Orientation, Religion or Belief, Gender Reassignment and Pregnancy or Maternity.
- Equality is also addressed in the 'Alternative Sports Day' where students can compete in more than just the conventional sporting activities.
- Fullbrook have appointed Anti-Bullying mentors in each year group who receive regular internal training, and present in assemblies. When new to the school, Year 7 students are assigned a Year 11 Mentor to 'show them the ropes' and ensure that they have equal access to all areas of the school. The same policy is used with Year 9 Mentors for Year 5 away days.
- On 'Sports Day' all students will take part in an event track, field or 'games' activities where they represent their house.
- Each year Fullbrook hosts a popular talent contest called 'Fullbrook's got Talent.' This is a highly anticipated event in the school calendar where anyone can take part and show off their skills and support their friends.
- Students can take part in Bronze, Silver & Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards and gives students the chance to do something completely new which takes them out of their comfort zones and into a place where they must push themselves and also have amazing new experiences.
- Students are aware of and contribute to the Anti-Bullying Policy and were instrumental in securing the Surrey County Council Anti-Bullying Award.
- The School's Single Equality Scheme, Accessibility Policy and Equality Policy underpin all aspects of our work with students, staff and the wider community.
- The School Council encourages students to exercise their right to free speech whilst their responsibilities in ensuring that what they say verbally, in writing or on-line does not cause offense or militate against the rights of others. This message is reinforced in assemblies and through the formal curriculum in PSHCEE, English, History, and Religious Education throughout the curriculum.

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4. Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

We are fortunate to live and work in a diverse community and students are encouraged to celebrate the differences between individuals and to see these as enriching.

- As noted above the Anti-Bullying Policy is given a high profile within the school and students are keen to report that they feel safe, value the rights of others to safety and would know who to turn to if they were concerned in this regard.
- Aside from assemblies we run regular multi-cultural activities which are embedded into the Deep Learning Day SMSC activities. Including multi faith quizzes, Indian dance workshops, African drumming workshops and talks from ex-serviceman where students can ask questions about different beliefs and faiths.
- Through Religious Education students learn about a range of religions and discuss cultural differences and similarities.
- All students take a GCSE examination in Religious Studies which promotes religious equality.
- Fullbrook offers a Religious Education trip in Year 7 to places of worship where students gain an understanding and acceptance of other beliefs and faiths. Throughout the years there are additional trips to highlight the dangers of persecution including a trip to the Auschwitz concentration camp although this is only attended by a small number of students.
- Students are taught how to use social media responsibly and Fullbrook runs workshops for parents to promote a healthy behaviour for their child's online presence.

Conclusion

Fullbrook subscribe to the online 'Gridmaker' software which maps all aspects of SMSC and British Values throughout the curriculum. The 'Gridmaker' is updated regularly throughout each year to capture ongoing good practice and updated schemes of work dependant on current events.

Fullbrook is proud of the work it does in promoting British values, this document gives an outline of some, but by no means all of the ways in which the school promotes these values. Should you feel that there is more we could do in this area of our work please do not hesitate to write to the Principal sharing any ideas to improve the way Fullbrook promotes British Values.

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