



## Longsands Academy and Astrea Sixth Form British Values Policy

<b>Date</b>	16 June 2021
<b>Written by</b>	Mr James Powell: Assistant Principal – Personal Development
<b>Date adopted by Longsands LECC</b>	7 July 2021
<b>Review Date</b>	June 2024

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## Statement of intent

This policy sets out the framework in which Longsands Academy will ensure that we actively promote the fundamental British values of:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

These values are officially taught through the RE and Personal Development curriculum, and are further nurtured through the wider opportunities of the Student Weekly Bulletin, Votes for Schools and the Great Conversations Assembly Programme.

**Signed by:**

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**Principal**

**Date**

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**Chair of LECC**

**Date**

## 1. Legal framework

1.1. This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Equality Act 2010
- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Ofsted (2019) 'Academy inspection handbook'

1.2. This policy operates in conjunction with the following Academy policies:

- Prevent Duty Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Astrea Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Equality Policy
- Astrea Disciplinary Policy and Procedure

## 2. Roles and responsibilities

2.1. The LECC is responsible for the overall implementation of this policy and for ensuring that the British values are upheld throughout the Academy.

2.2. The Principal and SLT will ensure that all teachers and staff are aware of the requirement to uphold British values through the methods outlined in this policy.

2.3. Teachers and support staff will ensure that their lessons are inclusive of, and sensitive to, the fundamental British values.

2.4. Students are expected to treat each other and staff with respect, in line with the Academy's Behaviour Policy.

## 3. Aims and objectives

3.1. Through our policy and procedures, we aim to ensure that our students have:

- An understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process.
- An appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their wellbeing and safety.
- An understanding that there is a separation of power between the executive and the judiciary, and that while some public bodies, such as the police and the army, can be held to account through Parliament, others, such as the courts, maintain independence.
- An understanding that the freedom to hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law.
- An acceptance that people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour.
- An understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination.

#### 4. Democracy

- 4.1. Students have numerous opportunities to have their views heard, including through:
  - House Council Leadership Team
  - Student surveys
  - Student questionnaires
- 4.2. Our students are encouraged to have an input into what and how they learn to instil an understanding of democracy for their future.
- 4.3. Students will be taught about formal democracy and Britain's democratic institutions

#### 5. The rule of law

- 5.1 The Academy has a high regard for the laws that govern and protect the Academy, the responsibilities that this involves, and the consequences when laws are broken.
- 5.2 Students are taught these values and the reasons behind laws, whether they govern the class, the Academy or the country, that are essential for their wellbeing and safety. Students are allowed healthy debate in class on the matter to encourage recognition of the importance of the law.
- 5.4 The Academy organises visits and events when appropriate throughout the academic year in an effort to reinforce the reality and importance of this message.
- 5.5 The Academy understands the importance of promoting British values through a comprehensive and unprejudiced curriculum.

#### 6. Individual liberty

- 6.1. A safe and supportive environment is fostered throughout the Academy, where students are actively encouraged to make choices.
- 6.2 Students are taught about their rights and personal freedoms and are encouraged and advised on how to exercise these safely, for instance through teaching on e-safety and Personal Development sessions. British Values assemblies are also delivered during the Academy year.

#### 7. Mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

- 7.1. Students are treated with respect and learn to treat each other and all members of staff with respect.
- 7.2. This is reinforced through the Academy's Positive Behaviour Policy and articles in the Student Weekly Bulletin which is displayed around the Academy site
- 7.3. The Academy acknowledges that tolerance is achieved through students' knowledge and understanding of their place in a culturally-diverse society and the opportunity for students to experience such diversity.

- 7.4. Throughout the year, assemblies are held focussing on bullying, with reference to prejudice-based bullying, and discussion is encouraged.
- 7.5. Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs is supported by the RE and PD curriculum.

The Academy encourages its students from different faiths or religions to share their knowledge with their peers to enhance their learning.

## 8. Challenging views that go against British values

- 8.1 The Academy openly challenges opinions and behaviour, demonstrated by both staff and students, that goes against British values.
- 8.2 The Academy will not tolerate discriminatory and prejudicial behaviour. Any students displaying this behaviour will be disciplined in line with the Positive Behaviour Policy.
- 8.3 Referrals regarding students that may be at risk of radicalisation will be made in accordance with the Academy's Prevent Duty Policy.

## 9. Staff training

- 9.1 Members of staff are made aware of their responsibilities in terms of British values during their induction and through additional CPD.
- 9.2 Staff will be offered the opportunity for further training on upholding the values in this policy.

## 10. Policy review

This policy is reviewed every three years, or sooner where appropriate, by the Assistant Principal: Personal Development and the Longsands Local Education Consultative Committee (LECC).