

TEACHING BRITISH VALUES

March 2017.

The Government emphasises that schools are required to ensure that key 'British Values' are taught in all UK schools. The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy.

The five British Values are:

Democracy
The rule of law
Individual liberty
Mutual respect
Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

The school uses strategies within the National curriculum and beyond to secure such outcomes for students. The examples that follow show some of the many ways Arnfield seeks to embed British values:

Democracy

The principle of democracy is consistently being reinforced at Arnfield, with democracy processes being used for important decisions within the school community for example at regular young people's meetings. The principle of democracy is also explored in the History PSHE, English and Religious Studies curriculum as well as assemblies.

The rule of law

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced at Arnfield.

Students are taught the rules and expectations of the school which are highlighted by the code of conduct and expectations sections of the young person's handbook. Students are taught the value and the reasons behind laws that govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken.

Individual liberty

At Arnfield, students are actively encouraged to make independent choices, with the knowledge that they are in a safe, secure and supportive environment. Staff at Arnfield educate and provide boundaries for students to make informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education.

Students are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised on how to exercise these safely, for example through e-safety and individual sessions. Arnfield has a robust anti-bullying culture and has in place a comprehensive Behaviour for Learning Policy.

Mutual Respect

Respect is a strong part of Arnfield. Students learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community are encouraged to treat each other with respect and this is reiterated through its teaching and learning environments.

Mutual respect is embraced throughout the curriculum by providing the opportunity for students to express their views in a safe environment so that the thoughts and answers of all are respected'.

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 the opportunities to experience such diversity within the school community. Additionally, students are actively encouraged to share their faith and beliefs within the school and celebrate festivities throughout the calendar year. The Religious Studies curriculum provides a broad and balanced education on a range of faiths, religions and cultures.

Arnfield strives endlessly to ensure that its students leave with the strongest foundation of values upon which to build a successful life and a successful contribution to our Society.

R MacKenzie (Head Teacher)

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Relevant Legislation:

Education Act 2002 (sec 78)

Equality Act 2010

Prevent Strategy 2011

Equality Act 2010 & Schools (2014)

The Education (Independent School Standards) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014

Improving SMSC Development of Pupils Nov 2014