

Fundamental British Values

Information for Parents/Carers

What are British Values?

Schools have a responsibility to foster the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural (SMSC) development of their students. As part of this, schools are expected to actively promote fundamental British values, as defined by the government:

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

Why is it important to teach British Values?

British values are delivered to ensure that we are preparing young people for life in contemporary Britain. This includes helping individuals understand:

- The significance of combating discrimination
- How they can influence decision-making through participation in democratic processes such as voting and petitioning
- Their freedom under British law to choose different faiths and beliefs
- The role of the law in ensuring our safety."

What are some examples of the understanding and knowledge students are expected to learn?

- An understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process.
- 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.

How does The Westgate School promote British Values?

The Westgate School delivers British Values throughout the curriculum and co-curriculum. Some examples of this are as follows:

- Westgate Student Parliament
- Celebrating UK Parliament Week
- Through our behaviour policy
- Our whole school values
- Through a broad curriculum
- Educational visits



Positive



Safe



Respectful

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Democracy

Links to school behaviour code:

Respectful

(Treat everyone with respect – listen and appreciate other people’s values and opinions even if they are different to your own.)



Individual liberty

Links to school behaviour code:

Positive

(Get involved - keep going when things get tough – seek help when you need it)



Mutual respect

Links to school behaviour code:

Respectful

(Treat everyone and our environment with respect)



The rule of the law

Links to school behaviour code:

Safe

(Look after everyone in our community and don’t do anything to hurt yourself or others)



Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

Links to school behaviour code:

Respectful

(Treat everyone and our environment with respect)

