



Social, moral, spiritual & cultural (SMSC) education and British Values at Lancaster School

Introduction

In November 2014, the Department for Education (DfE) published the document 'Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools'.

Within this document is a clear statement from the 2011 Prevent Strategy, that schools should "promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs."

SMSC.... the Lancaster way

SMSC is delivered through the curriculum, both academic and pastoral, and the 'hidden', through the culture, attitude and ethos of Lancaster School. Staff model the attitudes we want to see in our young people so we can scaffold their development into future citizens of our multi-cultural & multi-faith society.

We actively encourage everyone in school to ask questions, show curiosity and challenges opinions, attitudes and behaviours that are contrary to British values.

We actively seek to show equal regard for people of all faiths, races and cultures and actively promote the attitude that 'people are people' and that it is our differences that make us unique and special.

British Values..... the Lancaster way

- **Democracy for all**

At Lancaster School we actively seek the views of parents/carers, students, staff and external agencies on an annual basis (through questionnaires) to inform the strategic direction of the school.

Additionally, we listen to the views of students and parents/carers at Annual Reviews and Learning Conversation Days.

Our Student Council has a strong voice and meets regularly with a senior leader, showing that we are clear in wanting our young people to be active contributors to the school's development and daily management.

- **Law of the Land**

We all have high expectations of ourselves and others, which are consistently reinforced through learning, attitudes and ethos.

The students have devised the School Code and review it annually to make sure it promotes the message that the students want to give about their school and it reflects the needs of everyone.

We have school rules that apply to everyone and the reasons and values behind these rules are explained to the students:

- to keep us all safe
- to help us understand our responsibilities
- to understand that there are consequences to everything we do.

- **Freedom and liberty for all**

All students are encouraged to be independent and make informed choices, so that we can all work in a safe and caring environment.

Students are encouraged to be inquisitive, express their views and challenge in a responsible way, the views of others, through both the academic, pastoral and 'hidden' curriculum, whilst understanding that if they want to express their views, they have a responsibility to allow others to do the same, without fear of reprisal.

- **Equal respect for everyone**

All adults, whether staff or visitors are expected to model respect and tolerance, so promoting the behaviours we want our young people to have as second nature. This is the foundation of positive and interactive relationships.

We believe everyone's differences are what make us special and unique; these are respected and celebrated and make the Lancaster School community a happy community of choice.

- **Tolerance not discrimination**

Through our curriculum, we teach about the world around us and the diversity that exists in faiths, cultures and beliefs.

We actively encourage everyone to embrace this diversity and accept 'people as people'.