

BRITISH VALUES POLICY

St Alban's Classical Academy is committed to serving our local community of which we are proud to be a part. We also recognise the rich, multicultural, multi-faith and constantly changing nature of life in modern Britain. We are a distinctively Christian school with a Christian Ethos. Due to our belief that all people are made in the image of God, whether they share our Christian beliefs or not, and Jesus' teaching on loving one's neighbour as oneself, we believe that all people deserve dignity and respect. So we of course deplore any kind of prejudice, discrimination or inequality in the treatment of others.

We know how vital our role as a school is in ensuring that groups or individuals within the school are not subjected to intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to unduly, or illegally, influence them. We therefore follow equal opportunities guidance which helps to ensure that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status, or similar. We are dedicated to preparing our pupils for their adult life beyond the formal examined curriculum and to ensuring that we promote and reinforce British values to all our pupils.

The Government emphasises the requirement that key British Values are taught in all UK schools. The definition of British values is set out 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

These values are consistent with, and indeed spring from, traditional Christianity. Therefore our school focuses heavily on these virtues and we do not believe that British Values should just be taught as an added extra or taught in isolation to appease a requirement. We believe they should be fully integrated into the school's foundation - so much so that we have named our school after St Alban, the first English martyr. We strive to be a school in which British Values are lived out and whose pupils can discuss and articulate them with clarity and sensitivity. We use strategies within the National Curriculum and beyond to secure such outcomes for our pupils.

Worship is a key part of every school day at St Alban's Classical Academy and an important forum for educating children in British Values.

Every pupil will have at least one Christian studies lesson a week, during which the study naturally leads on to discussion of British Values and how we apply them. During this time, British Values are thoroughly discussed and taught and the attitudes and responses of pupils to these lessons, and their impact on behaviour and attitude, will be regularly monitored by the head teacher.

The table below contains examples of some of the ways in which each British Value is addressed at St Alban's Classical Academy.

Democracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School council ● Our history curriculum covers the development of our British system of government
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occasionally we will hold a school-wide vote on issues that affect children.
The rule of law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our school rules and behaviour policy instil an understanding of the importance of following laws. Police and members of legal profession to be invited in to talk about their roles
Individual liberty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children will be given choices about certain issues In RE and PSHE they will learn that freedom of religion is a key part of British law
Mutual respect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our virtues and school rules underline the importance of respect Teachers model this, and children learn how to speak and act respectfully towards other children and adults.
Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In RE, children learn about different faiths and worldviews. Christian values of kindness, friendship and respect are taught so that children learn to respect all people regardless of faith In English and other classes, children learn to listen to others' points of view and to debate and discuss respectfully Children meet others from different faith backgrounds at sporting events and are expected to treat all with love and kindness.

All staff and board members will complete appropriate PREVENT training, so that they are constantly alert to the dangers of extremist behaviour. Pupils will be actively encouraged to share their faith and beliefs within school and will be taught to understand how vital it is to be tolerant of others' views.

We are committed to cultivating wisdom and virtue for all our pupils and to ensuring that our pupils eventually leave school with a strong foundation of values upon which to build a successful life and who are able to make a strong, sustained contribution to 21st century Britain.

Reviewed and updated: February 2024
Mrs L Sediles