

British Values Statement

The DFE have reinforced the need “to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs” through promoting British Values.

Bridge Academy Trust reflects British Values in all that we do. We ensure that through our guiding principles, values, relationships and teaching we actively promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths, beliefs and lifestyles.

The Trust recognises the multi-cultural, multi faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom and understands the vital role it has in ensuring within the schools no one is subjected to intimidation or radicalization.

Our aim is to nurture our children on their journey through life so they can grow into safe, caring, democratic, responsible and tolerant adults who make a positive difference to British society and to the world.

We encourage our children to be creative, unique, open-minded and independent individuals, respectful of themselves and of others in our schools, our local community and the wider world using strategies within the National Curriculum and beyond to secure such outcomes.

The examples that follow show some of the ways in which Bridge Academy Trust seeks to embed British values.

Democracy

- The principle of democracy is explored within the National curriculum as well as in assemblies where commemoration of events such as the ending of the First World War.
- All children are encouraged to debate topics of interest and express their views.

The Rule of Law

- Policies such as Behaviour, Anti-Bullying and school rules enable children to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the Civil and Criminal Law of England.
- Children are always helped to distinguish right from wrong, in the classroom, during assemblies, family groups and during break time.
- School rules and expectations are clear, fair and regularly promoted.

Individual Liberty

- Students are encouraged to exercise their right to free speech.
- Within each school, children are actively encouraged, and given the freedom to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. E.g. attending extra-curricular clubs, choosing meal options.
- Children are encouraged to take responsibility for their behaviour and each school reinforces the importance of making the right choices.

Mutual Respect and Tolerance

- We expect all staff and children of the Bridge Academy Trust to treat each other with respect, consideration and integrity. Students learn through their interactions with staff, in assemblies and in class time that their behaviour has an impact on others.
- Students are encouraged to reach out to communities who are less fortunate than themselves and each year raise hundreds of pounds for projects around the world, demonstrating their respect for those who live in very different circumstances to ourselves.
- Children are helped to acquire an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other cultures and ways of life.
- Through the curriculum children are encouraged to discuss and respect differences between people, such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, gender or sexuality and differences of family situations.
- We offer a culturally rich and diverse curriculum across the schools in which all major religions are studied and respected and global dimension work embedded in many of our curriculum topics, which offer children the chance to reflect on our core values and British values.
- Primary children benefit from the opportunity to visit different communities around the county; Secondary children benefit from the opportunity to visit different communities around the county and the world.
- We encourage Children to understand their place within a culturally diverse society and above all to ensure that they leave Bridge Academy Trust with a set of values which will ensure they continue to contribute positively to society as they enter adult life.