

British Values Policy
Last Reviewed/Updated: 14.08.2019
Next Review/Update: 14.08.2020

Legal framework

- This policy will have consideration for the following guidance:
 - Ofsted, School Inspection Handbook, 2015.
 - DfE, Improving the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development of pupils, 2013.
- This policy is carried out in conjunction with our following other policies:
 - Behaviour Policy
 - Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development Policy

Background

At Regent College we value the diversity of backgrounds of all students, families and wider the school community.

The Department for Education states that there is a 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

The Department for Education defines British Values as follows:

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

The college reflects British values in all that we do. We encourage our students to be creative, unique, open-minded and independent individuals, respectful of themselves and of others in the college, our local community and the wider world.

Roles and responsibilities

- Regent College understands the importance of promoting British values through a balanced and unprejudiced curriculum.
- The Head Teacher will ensure that all staff are aware of the requirement to uphold British values through the methods outlined in this policy, and will ensure that the appropriate procedures are in place to carry out these methods.
- Teachers will ensure that their lessons are inclusive of, and sensitive to, the fundamental British values.
- Students are expected to treat each other and staff with respect, in line with the school’s ethos and Behaviour Policy.

The Key British Values at Regent College

At Regent College, we actively promote British values in the following ways:

a. Democracy

- Head Teacher open forum sessions
 - Student induction
 - Appointment of student spokesperson and student questionnaires
 - Personal Development Programme
 - There is explicit consideration of democracy within PSHEE and Citizenship lessons
 - The principles of democracy are explored in the whole curriculum e.g. turn taking, sharing and collaboration, as well as during assemblies and activity days.
 - Achievements are celebrated both in lessons and in our weekly assembly
- We promote a school environment where questions are valued and encouraged

b. The rule of law

- The college's ethos promotes and encourages respect and helps students to distinguish right from wrong.
- The Behaviour and Anti-Bullying policies set out a zero tolerance baseline for any form of aggression, abuse or violence, which extends to pupils, staff and parent and carers. We raise awareness of bullying by being part of the National Anti-Bullying Week and Internet Safety Day.
- The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the college, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout the academic year as well as when dealing with behaviour and through college assemblies.
- Through PSHEE and GCSE Citizenship lessons, students are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken.

c. Individual liberty

- We pride ourselves on a college culture and ethos that builds respect, tolerance and resilience.
- Both in and out of lessons, students are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment.
- Students are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advise how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety policy, assemblies, and Personal Development sessions.
- We have a robust anti-bullying culture (refer to Anti-Bullying Policy and Behaviour Policy)
- Our college environment is one that promotes independence and individual communication. Our aim is to work towards students having full independence.
- We all work to promote students' self-esteem and positive sense of self throughout the college day and in the wider community
- students are encouraged to take responsibility for their behaviour and are supported to learn to make safe choices that enable them to grow as individuals and reach their own potential in all aspects of their learning

- As students move up through the college they are supported to understand their rights and personal freedoms and are given appropriate advice to enable them to make independent decisions.
- Vulnerable students are supported to make appropriate decisions and staff ensure that adults supporting them are doing so with the student's best interests.
- We conduct student and parent surveys and use the results to inform the college quality improvement plan.

d. Mutual respect

- Respect is one of the core values of the college. Our students know and understand that it is expected that respect is shown to everyone, adults and children.
- School assemblies address what respect means and how it is shown.
- Displays around the school promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our Behaviour Policy.
- Both in and out of the classroom students are helped to acquire an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other opinions, cultures and ways of life.
- Staff and students are encouraged to challenge prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour. All such incidents are recorded.

e. Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

- Discussions about prejudices and prejudice-based bullying in form time.
- Recognition and discussion of religious celebrations in lessons, form times and assemblies. ☒
- Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning
- Through the PHSEE and Citizenship lessons, students are encouraged to discuss and respect differences between people, such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, gender or sexuality and differences of family situations.

5. Staff training

- At Regent College, staff are made aware of their responsibilities in terms of British values during their induction.
- If deemed necessary, staff will be offered the opportunity for further training on upholding the British Values Policy.