



# British Values Statement

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**Nominated Lead Member of Staff:** Stephen King

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## **British Values Statement**

Manchester Enterprise Academy is committed to serving its communities and recognises the multicultural, multi-faith and multi-ethnic nature of both our city and the United Kingdom. We celebrate the cultural diversity of our city and nation and aim to engender this appreciation across our Academy as we create a community of belonging and inclusion. We are dedicated to preparing our students for their adult life beyond the formal, examined curriculum, as we know that good exam results alone are not enough to secure our students' fantastic future.

At Manchester Enterprise Academy, we value the diversity of backgrounds of all students, families and the wider school community that we serve. Our approach to British Values links together our personal development and SMSC curriculum, our Fantastic Futures curriculum, our Prevent work and our formal academic curriculum to ensure that students always embrace these values and model them.

We also understand the vital role we have in ensuring that groups or individuals, within the Academy, are not subjected to intimidation or radicalisation, by those wishing to unduly, or illegally, influence them, as we develop our students' understanding of and resilience to these harms.

As set out in the equal opportunities guidance, we are dedicated to ensuring that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status within the Academy. This is emboldened in our work on The Prospere Anti-Racism Pledge, our recognised Rainbow Flag Award status and our work towards achieving The Holocaust Beacon Schools quality mark.

In 2014 the Department for Education issued new guidance which compels all academies to promote Fundamental British Values, and 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

We recognise the deficits in cultural capital that most of our students experience so in promoting these values we place knowledge of them at the heart of what we do, teaching our students the knowledge that they need to understand British Values, as well as providing them with experiences which reinforce their understanding of them. We embolden our students to be creative, respectful, open-minded and independent individuals who are respectful of themselves and of others in our academy, our local community and the wider world – acting as 'Community Citizens'.

### **Democracy**

The Academy is committed to providing opportunities for students to engage with, understand and participate in democracy and democratic processes. We believe it is important that our students are able to understand different political views, discuss current events and develop political literacy. Some of the ways we do this are:

- Annual whole school participation with the UK Youth Parliament Youth Ballot 'Make Your Mark'
- Weekly Smart School Council meetings for all tutor groups, linked to the Academy Improvement Plan.

- Teaching the history and development of democracy. Democracy and the theme of democracy is featured throughout the curriculum. For example, in History lessons, focusing on the development of democracy from 1000A.D to the present day, including The British Civil Rights Movement.
- Fantastic Futures lessons explicitly teach about The Political System and workings of the United Kingdom's democracy.
- Students across the academy work closely with the Manchester Youth Council.
- Dedicated time exists within Tutor Time for students to discuss and explore current political events and issues.
- Engaging students with local, national and global events and exploring these where relevant.
- Student feedback and student voice is placed at the heart of decision-making, using ballots to enhance students understanding of the workings of democracy.
- Developing students oracy and debating skills, across the curriculum, equipping them with the tools to share their views and understand the views of others.
- Students participate fully in UK Parliament Week each year as well as key SMSC calendar events such as Women's History Month, LGBT History Month and Black History Month.
- Developing students resilience towards extremism and extremist narratives through our Fantastic Futures curriculum and engaging with recognised Home Office partners such as Odd Arts.

### **The rule of law**

The academy is committed to developing law-abiding citizens by:

- Promoting and encouraging respectful behaviour and attitudes, helping students to distinguish right from wrong through our 'Community Citizens' work, behaviour policy and anti-bullying policy.
- Through Fantastic Futures 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. The Fantastic Future's Curriculum specifically explores Hate Crime, Drug Classification and Human Rights, as well as the laws around online behaviour.
- Signposting to students where to seek help, support and guidance in relation to law breaking and the harms that this may cause them, their peers or their community.
- The academy enforces the idea of consequences for those who do not follow the policy and rewards learners who follow The MEA Way and provides reflection opportunities for all learners to understand their behaviour.
- We facilitate visits from authorities and local partners such as the Greater Manchester Police and Fire Service to help reinforce the importance of the rule of law within both the academy and the United Kingdom.

### **Individual liberty**

We believe in the importance of developing students who are able to make informed choices and become independent adults who are aware of their rights. Individual liberty is covered through:

- The Fantastic Futures curriculum engages students to explore the importance of rights and aims to develop the skills of resilience and empathy.
- In 2014, the academy established Diversity Ambassadors to promote tolerance and inclusion across the academy and the local community – our work has been recognized and celebrated across the city when we won the Youth Buzz Award in 2016/17 and The Be Proud Award in 2017/18.
- We are an active Rainbow Flag Award School, teaching LGBTQ+ respect and awareness.
- Encouraging learners to make individual choices within their personal pathways through a planned programme of CEIAG.

- Actively promoting and helping learners to express their views, ideas and thoughts in an open and safe environment.
- Enforcing the Academy's robust anti-bullying policy.

### **Mutual respect**

It is important that learners know their behaviour has an effect on their own rights and the rights of others; treating each other with respect is actively promoted throughout the academy and is part of our MEA learning principles. The academy teaches and upholds this value through:

- Staff and students are empowered to challenge prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour. All such incidents are recorded, and action is robustly taken to address any such issues.
- Staff receive regular CPD on creating a culture of belonging through our Rainbow Flag Award status, our Anti-Racism pledge and our Holocaust Beacon Schools programme.
- Groups of students across year groups have received explicit training on how to promote and up-hold respect and tackle prejudice.
- Mutual respect is discussed and re-enforced through our behaviour and anti-bullying policies and in our personal development curriculum.
- Academy assemblies focus on respect, tolerance and equality throughout each academic year.
- The tutorial programme is designed to encourage students to reflect on their behaviour and conduct towards others, and specific programmes such as the 'Year 8 Tolerance and Mutual Respect tutor time theme' makes this explicit to students over a sustained study period.
- Students are provided with an array of extra-curricular clubs, activities and events that enable them to work with a wide range of other students.
- The Fantastic Futures curriculum explicitly covers the importance of mutual respect, with particular emphasis on anti-discrimination, especially with regard to protected groups.
- Our academic and personal development curriculums, encourages students to work in groups and understand each other's needs/strengths and weaknesses, thus promoting a culture of mutual respect, empathy and helpfulness.

### **Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs**

Manchester Enterprise Academy does not actively promote one faith or belief system over another and actively encourages students to be aware of, understand and be tolerant towards the range of views, which exist within our society. The Academy does this through:

- Recognition and discussion of religious celebrations in lessons, tutor time and assemblies.
- Discussions about prejudice are a part of our tutor time and personal development curriculum.
- Through the Fantastic Futures and RE and Power and Belief curriculums students are explicitly taught units of work to develop their understanding of faith, belief and religion.
- Through the Power and Belief curriculum students develop their religious understanding and literacy through exploring the nature of beliefs.
- Across the academic curriculum students explore a diverse range of texts, case studies and situations which challenge misconceptions about religion and develop their understanding of the multi-faith nature of the UK.
- Across the curriculum 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.
- Our Diversity Ambassadors play an active and lively role within the Academy and local community – upholding the values of mutual respect and inclusion.

- Students who are marking religious or cultural events are encouraged to share their beliefs and practices within their tutor groups.
- As part of our personal development curriculum, students visit a range of places of worship, with each year group visiting a different site each year.
- The Academy takes part in key national, local and regional events – such as Holocaust Memorial Day, LGBT History Month, Black History Month and Women’s History Month where students are encouraged to reflect, empathise and form their own views on these topics.
- Working with recognised partners, collaboratively developing educational programmes which challenge prejudice and islamophobia.