

Ormiston Chadwick Academy: British Values Statement

We are committed to serving our community and recognise the multi-cultural, multi-faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom. We also understand the vital role the academy plays 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.

We follow equality guidance which endeavours to ensure 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 students for their adult life beyond the formal, examined curriculum and ensuring that it promotes and reinforces British values to all our students.

The five key British values* are:

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

The academy uses strategies within the national curriculum and beyond to secure such outcomes for students. The examples that follow show some of the many ways we seek to instill British values.

** Definition set by the government in the 2011 Prevent Strategy.*

Democracy

Every child is encouraged to be active participants through our personal development programme. There are many opportunities for pupils to engage in the democratic process including nominating peers for our annual prestigious OCAer award, running for house leader and electing the Student Parliament.

Our Student Parliament meets with our Senior Leadership Team termly and presents feedback from peers, this helps inform decision making for the school. The Student Parliament helps review and update relevant policies, making student friendly versions where appropriate.

Our broad and balanced curriculum teaches students about democracy and the political process in Britain including how Britain has evolved into society as we know it today. This is then reinforced through form times, assemblies and ECM days.

Pupil views are also sought in student surveys and focus groups. Every child has a voice.

The rule of law

At OCA we consistently reinforce the importance of rules and laws, whether they govern a class, the school, the local community or the country. Students are taught the values of laws and rules, the reasons behind them, and the consequences that apply when they are broken. The school has links with many external agencies related to the law and works closely with our School Police Liaison Officer fostering positive relationships with our students and the wider community.

Individual liberty

Our students are provided with a safe environment which allows them to think about, and make, informed choices in their lives both in and out of school. The extensive enrichment programme encourages students to be involved in a range of school and community based activities of their choice. The enrichment ethos of ‘something for everyone’ allows all students to contribute positively in school and within the wider community in order to develop the skills to become effective British citizens. Our assembly and personal development programme explores the concept of liberty and the danger of attempts to undermine this. Students are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and responsibilities and personal freedoms and receive advice about how to exercise these safely.

Mutual respect

Mutual respect is central to our school. Respect for staff, students and peers is evident throughout the school environment. Each house has is named after an individual who has helped make the world a better place and promote respect and kindness as a way of life. Through the house system students are encouraged to live these values for themselves. Respect is upheld within classrooms and students are encouraged to share their views as well as listen to each other’s points of view. Students are given responsibility to help and support each other, working together to ensure all students achieve their personal best. Across our curriculum, through the personal development programme, during enrichment and ecm days pupils are given the opportunity to work together and to show respect in everything they do. Our charity work encourages students to care for those around them and actively commit to helping others.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

We strive to improve our students understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society. Students are offered a wide range of opportunities to experience such diversity in school through the personal development curriculum which encompasses RE, pshe and citizenship. ECM days, extra curricular trips and enrichment all encourage students to learn about different faiths and beliefs and how they enrich our society.
