

Our Promotion of British values at Cavendish

The government set out their definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. These were reinforced in September 2014 due to recent events. The new regulations sit alongside the requirements of the Equalities Act 2010, which also applies to all types of school.

Schools will be expected to focus on, and be able to show, how our work with students is effective in embedding fundamental British values.

Promoting British values at The Cavendish School

We agree with the Department for Education's five part definition of British values;

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

At The Cavendish School the students encounter these principles throughout everyday school life. In particular, our promotion of spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding has been described by Ofsted "as being well promoted through a range of activities in and out of lessons" (June 2013)

The curriculum is mapped in detail across the whole school. Listed below are some examples of how we promote these values in our school community.

Democracy

Student voice is being embedded under the school's new leadership and now plays an active role in developing Cavendish. Our student-elected student council is now recognised amongst all stakeholders. They are elected by their class peers and are involved in making Cavendish a better place to learn. For example students have played a key role in developing the school's new Behaviour for Learning Policy during the autumn term.

We know that the formation of the student council and the active participation of our students will sow the seeds for a more sophisticated understanding of democracy in the future.

The Rule of Law

Our students will encounter rules and laws throughout their entire lives. We want our students to understand that whether these laws govern the class, the school, the neighbourhood or the country, they are set for good reasons and must be adhered to.

This understanding of the importance of the rules will be consistently reinforced through assemblies and our curriculum. The involvement of our students in the creation of the 'Cavendish Pledge' and the revised Behaviour for Learning Policy helps them to understand

the reasons behind the rules and the consequences if they are broken, as well as celebrating rewards and success. Throughout the year we welcome visits from members of the wider community including police, war veterans, the fire brigade and many more. We believe that clear expectations and real life stories emphasise the importance of the rule of law for our students.

Individual Liberty

We invest a great deal of time in creating a positive culture in our school, so that young people are in a safe environment where choices and freedoms are encouraged. In lessons, learning tasks are often left for the students to decide upon. We encourage them to choose the task that will challenge them, giving them more freedom to determine their own learning. We offer a range of enrichment activities, which students have the freedom to choose from based on their interests. Students are encouraged to take on more responsibility within a school area and support the office staff on a daily basis by undertaking the student receptionist role and supporting the school Librarians at break and lunchtime. Through our e-safety programme we educate children on their rights and personal freedoms as well as supporting them in recognising how to exercise these freedoms safely. At Cavendish we believe that valuing choice and freedom in daily school life will foster a value for individual liberty as the students embark upon their adult lives.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is at the core of our school life. Students learn to treat each other and staff with great respect. This is evident when walking around the school both in and out of the classroom. Our school motto is “committed to achieving our personal best” and this is seen throughout the school and in relationships between staff and students.

A new behaviour for learning policy is in place and students take responsibility, with support when needed, to resolve conflict and repair relationships. The Cavendish School has a strong sporting history and students participate in both intra and inter school competitions that ensure they experience competitive events and have an opportunity to apply sportsmanship skills with other schools.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

At The Cavendish School we offer a culturally rich and diverse curriculum in which all major religions are studied and respected. Assemblies contribute to the knowledge of special occasions and celebrate staff and student successes. At the school we strongly believe that tolerance is gained through knowledge and understanding. Through our curriculum and the routines of our daily school life, we strive to demonstrate tolerance and help children to become knowledgeable and understanding citizens who will become valued members of society and can build a better Britain for the future whilst understanding their roles and responsibilities within it.