

FOOTSTEPS TRUST BRITISH VALUES POLICY

Policy Statement

Footsteps Academy is committed to promoting the Fundamental British Values of:

- Democracy
- The Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs

These values are actively promoted through our curriculum, pastoral provision, enrichment activities, safeguarding practice and daily interactions.

As an Alternative Provision, Footsteps recognises its responsibility to prepare students for life in modern Britain by promoting equality, inclusion, community cohesion, respect and personal responsibility.

The promotion of British Values forms an integral part of our commitment to safeguarding and protecting students from discrimination, extremism, radicalisation and all forms of exploitation.

Aims

The Academy aims to:

- Promote understanding of Fundamental British Values.
- Encourage students to become responsible and active citizens.
- Develop respect for democracy and the law.
- Foster respect and tolerance for people from different backgrounds.
- Promote equality and challenge discrimination.
- Encourage students to contribute positively to society.
- Support safeguarding objectives by building resilience to extremism and harmful influences.
- Prepare students for adulthood, employment and life in modern Britain.

Democracy

Students are encouraged to understand and participate in democratic processes.

The Academy promotes democracy through:

- Student Voice and Student Leadership opportunities.
- Elections for student representatives.
- Student surveys and consultations.
- PSHE and Personal Development lessons.
- Opportunities for students to express their views.
- Regular discussions about local, national and global issues.
- Encouraging students to contribute to decision-making within the Academy.

Students are taught that democracy allows people to have their voices heard while respecting the views of others.

The Rule of Law

Students are taught the importance of laws, rules and responsibilities.

The Academy promotes the Rule of Law by:

- Maintaining a clear Behaviour Policy.
- Consistently applying rules and expectations.
- Explaining the purpose behind rules and laws.
- Supporting students to understand rights and responsibilities.
- Encouraging accountability for actions.
- Working with external agencies including police, fire services and community organisations.
- Teaching about the criminal justice system and the role of public services.

Students learn that laws exist to protect individuals and communities and that actions have consequences.

Individual Liberty

Students are actively encouraged to make informed and responsible choices. The Academy promotes Individual Liberty through:

- Providing a safe and supportive environment.

- Encouraging independent thinking.
- Supporting students to make positive decisions.
- Promoting confidence, self-esteem and resilience.
- Teaching online safety and responsible use of technology.
- Encouraging participation in Academy activities.
- Supporting students to understand their rights and freedoms.

Students are encouraged to exercise these freedoms responsibly and with consideration for others.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is central to the ethos of Footsteps Academy.

We promote respect through:

- Positive relationships between staff and students.
- Consistent behaviour expectations.
- Restorative approaches.
- Anti-bullying education.
- Celebration of diversity and achievement.
- Promoting kindness, empathy and understanding.
- Valuing student opinions and contributions.

Students are expected to show respect towards:

- Themselves.
- Other students.
- Staff.
- Visitors.
- Property.
- The wider community.

Any form of bullying, harassment or discrimination is unacceptable and will be addressed promptly.

Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Footsteps Academy actively promotes understanding and respect for people of all:

- Faiths.
- Beliefs.

- Cultures.
- Backgrounds.
- Communities.

This is achieved through:

- PSHE and Personal Development lessons.
- Religious Education.
- Assemblies.
- Curriculum opportunities.
- Celebration of diversity.
- Discussion of local, national and global events.
- Community engagement activities.

Students are taught that differences should be respected and valued and that discrimination, prejudice and intolerance are unacceptable.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Footsteps Academy is committed to:

- Equality of opportunity.
- Inclusive practice.
- Respect for protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.
- Challenging stereotypes and discrimination.
- Promoting positive relationships.

Students are encouraged to understand and celebrate diversity within British society and the wider world.

Safeguarding and Prevent Duty

Promoting British Values supports the Academy's safeguarding responsibilities.

Students are taught to:

- Recognise extremist views and harmful influences.
- Think critically about information encountered online.

Date of Issue: September 2026

Date of Review: September 2027

- Challenge discrimination and prejudice.
- Respect democratic processes.
- Stay safe online.
- Report concerns to trusted adults.

The Academy fulfils its responsibilities under the Prevent Duty by promoting resilience, critical thinking and respectful debate.

Roles and Responsibilities

Principal

The Principal will ensure:

- British Values are actively promoted.
- Relevant policies support this commitment.
- Staff receive appropriate guidance and training.

Staff

Staff will:

- Model British Values.
- Promote respectful behaviour.
- Challenge discriminatory attitudes.
- Support discussion and debate appropriately.
- Embed British Values across the curriculum.

Students

Students are expected to:

- Respect others.
- Participate positively in Academy life.
- Follow Academy rules.
- Celebrate diversity.
- Demonstrate tolerance and understanding.

Monitoring and Review

The effectiveness of this policy will be monitored through:

- Student voice activities.
- Behaviour and safeguarding data.
- Curriculum reviews.
- Quality assurance activities.
- Stakeholder feedback.

The policy will be reviewed annually or sooner in response to changes in legislation or government guidance.