

Fundamental British Values

At Westlands School we recognise the importance of preparing our students for their adult lives beyond the formal examined curriculum. An important aspect of preparation for adulthood is ensuring that we promote and reinforce British Values to our students.

Democracy

We believe it is crucial that our school models the principles and practice of democracy. Students have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our scheduled programme of student voice, the outcomes of which are used to inform the programme of assemblies, RADAR values, community and tutor lessons in the sixth form. The democratic process is employed to vote for student representatives for student Heads of Community to ensure that all students experience the process of democracy. This fosters the concept of freedom of speech and group action to address needs and concerns of our school community. The principles of democracy are further explored in History, Radar Values and RE curricula as well as demonstrated in assemblies where students commemorate events such as armistice and remembrance day.

The Rule of Law

The importance of codes of conduct and behaviour are consistently reinforced throughout the school day, and through school assemblies. Our staff are positive role models for our students. Through our delivery of Citizenship students are taught about why laws are important in a democratic society, and about the laws that govern and protect the citizens of the UK. They learn about the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. This is further reinforced in History lessons where students are taught the value, the derivation and the reasons behind the laws that govern and protect us and by studying events, such as the Holocaust, demonstrates the potential appalling consequences of the absence of the rule of law.

Individual Liberty

At Westlands, pupils are actively encouraged to make positive choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we provide boundaries for students to make choices safely. Students are encouraged to know and understand how to exercise their rights and personal freedoms. We advise them how to exercise these safely, for example through Radar Values lessons. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights and The Human Rights Act are also taught through the Radar Values curriculum and reinforced in bespoke sessions which emphasises Human rights and the protected characteristics as defined by law. In addition, all students have the right to choose from a wide range of enrichment activities based on their interests.

Mutual Respect

The Westlands School ethos and behaviour policy has evolved around the RADAR

values of respect, achievement, diversity, aspiration and resilience. All the adults in our school community model the importance of mutual respect. We have a zero tolerance approach to all forms of bullying. Students take part in discussions and assemblies about what mutual respect means and how it is evident in social interaction. Students learn how their behaviours can affect themselves and others. Posters celebrate the respect for student leadership roles and in so doing promote respect for others, this is also emphasised through our behaviour policy. Our RSE curriculum teaches students how to behave responsibly towards themselves and others in preparation for adulthood. Our taught curriculum is underpinned by RADAR values. Within these lessons, qualities are delivered and emphasised throughout the curriculum and are clearly noted in medium term plans.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

We approach this by developing students' understanding of their place in a richly diverse society. We give them opportunities to experience such diversity through visitors to the school, visits to places of worship and symbolic significance, and through our wider enrichment programme which encourages them to be outward-looking and curious about the wider world. We welcome students from all faiths and cultures to learn at our school. Learning about different faiths and beliefs in RE and RSHE is supported by other areas of the curriculum, such as English, Geography, Art, Music and History and is also a feature of assemblies.

Daily acts of collective worship / assemblies

Our assemblies uphold traditional values of empathy, respect, and tolerance. Assemblies respond to current issues that are of interest to, or affect, our school community. We welcome outside speakers from a range of diverse backgrounds to speak at assemblies.