

## **British values and SMSC (spiritual, moral, social and cultural)**

The Department for Education has introduced a statutory duty for schools to promote British Values from September 2014 and also ensure they are taught in schools as part of SMSC development.

Wakefield City Academy recognises the multi-cultural, multi-faith and ever changing nature of the United Kingdom. The academy understands the vital role it has in encouraging students to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance.

At Wakefield City Academy we follow equal opportunities guidance which guarantees that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status.

Through SMSC development students will learn about English civil and criminal law. Wakefield City Academy is dedicated to preparing students for their adult life beyond the formal, examined curriculum and ensuring that it provides and reinforces British Values to all its students.

The 5 key British values are:

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect
- tolerance of those different faiths and believe

Through SMSC we aim to:

- enable students to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence
- enable students to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England
- encourage students to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely
- enable students to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England
- further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling students to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures
- encourage respect for other people; and
- encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England

Examples of how these are delivered at Wakefield City Academy:

- PSCHÉ programme
- 'Stop the Clock' days
- Trics – in Tutor Time
- Student Voice activities
- Religious Education lesson
- After school clubs
- Assemblies

- Educational visits
- Charity events
- Sporting events
- within curriculum areas

As a result of these student should have:

- an understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process
- an appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their wellbeing and safety
- an understanding that there is a separation of power between the executive and the judiciary, and that while some public bodies such as the police and the army can be held to account through Parliament, others such as the courts maintain independence
- an understanding that the freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law
- an acceptance that other people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated, and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour
- an understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination