

British Values at Sir Simon Milton Westminster UTC: Statement

At Sir Simon Milton Westminster UTC, we are dedicated to promoting values which ensure that our students develop a strong sense of social and moral responsibility. We prepare our students for life in modern Britain by developing an understanding of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

These values underpin the work we do and are promoted at various times throughout the UTC year, extending beyond the classroom with a wide range of visits and experiences.

In 2014, the Department of Education published guidance on promoting British values in Schools & Colleges to ensure young people leave education prepared for life in modern Britain and these values were first set out in the 'Prevent' strategy in 2011.

The five part definition of British values are as follows:

1. Democracy
2. The rule of Law
3. Individual liberty
4. Mutual Respect
5. Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

As UTC Leaders and Governors, we are responsible for providing a curriculum which:

- is broad and balanced, complies with statutory requirements and provides a wide range of subjects which prepare students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life in Modern Britain;
- actively promotes the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance;
- promotes tolerance of and respect for people of all faiths, no faith and of different cultures through the effective spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils;
- is supported by a well-rounded programme of tutorials which offer clear guidance on what is right and wrong, with opportunities for students to reflect.

With these values in mind, at Sir Simon Milton Westminster UTC we aim to:

- Help students to become valuable and rounded members of society who treat others with respect and tolerance, regardless of background.
- Promote the basic British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance for those of different beliefs and faiths to students.
- Ensure young people understand the importance of respect and leave college fully prepared for life in modern Britain.
- Celebrate difference and promote diversity.
- Encourage an understanding of the difficulties other cultures face where such values are not respected.

We are also taking action to:

- Embed different materials about democracy and how the law works into different college curriculum areas.
- Ensure that all our students have a voice that is listened to and valued and demonstrate how democracy works through promoting our Council and encouraging students to feedback to us through student surveys and focus groups (both qualitative and quantitative feedback).
- Use opportunities such as general elections and debates to promote British values and help students to argue and defend different points of view
- Develop and encourage extra-curricular activities amongst students which promote fundamental British values.
- Actively consult with our student council to gather student views and feedback on key college policies that effect the student body.
- Encourage student participation in working with the wider community and commemorating key events such as Armistice Day to gain an understanding of how British values have evolved.
- Encourage students to become responsible learners and to actively participate in their own learning and development.

EXAMPLES OF IMPLEMENTING BRITISH VALUES

Curriculum implementation of
British values at Sir Simon Milton
Westminster UTC

What will we be doing cross-college?

The College will ensure that all pupils have a voice that is listened to, and will demonstrate how democracy works by actively promoting democratic processes.

As well as actively promoting these values to our students, we are also embedding these into student work across all curriculum areas.

- The College has an elected body (the Student Council) these elected officers represent students across the College. One officer acts as a Governor.
- Students will form part of the recruitment panel for Teachers, particularly in lesson observations.
- We will invite in the electoral commission, who encourage eligible sixth form students to register to vote at enrolment
- Learner voice will be critical as a quality improvement tool. Students are given two opportunities a year to give focus group feedback to teachers about the quality of learning, teaching and assessment.
- In addition, surveys are undertaken to gather learner views about teaching and pastoral care.
- Focus groups are undertaken in various areas or about specific sessions (such as the quality of one-to-one tutorials or the quality of learning support and how it could be improved)
- Disciplinary policies will be embedded (rule of law) use of sanctions (see behaviour for learning policy)
- Focus on LGBTQI issues (leadership attendance at visit to a lecture about LGBTQI in education with prominent campaigners.
- Inclusion groups (lunch club led by Learning Assistant)
- Multi- faith prayer room (bookable)
- **Whole College diversity focus weeks**, including LGBTQI focus week, different cultural backgrounds (tutorial programme) and disability focus week.
- Equality and Diversity calendar
- Safeguarding is taught across the PSHEC curriculum
- Anti- bullying and harassment focus in PSHE programme.
- PREVENT and preventing radicalisation lessons for all students
- Employability programme

- Business challenge projects
- UN debating opportunities
- Use of rewards: Commendations/ positive points.
- Excellent links with the Community Policing Team and PREVENT engagement team. The Principal has met with several senior Met police officers.
- Counselling service (including drug counselling sessions)
- Use of advisory student referendum on key issues relating to the College.
- Visiting speakers
- Mock elections (local, general and referendum)

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Mike Finn – April 2018
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