



Altrincham Grammar School for Boys

Preparing Students for Life in Modern Britain – Our Policy

Nominated Lead Member of Staff:	EH/HM
Last Review Date:	October 2019
Next Review Date:	September 2022

Developing British Values and Preventing Radicalisation

This Policy aims to summarise how, as a school community, we are helping our students to prepare for life in modern Britain and how we work to prevent radicalisation in a range of areas. We meet the requirements set out in Section 78 of the Education Act 2002 and promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all our students.

Upholding and developing British Values

The Government set out a series of British Values in its 2011 “Prevent” strategy and we aim to actively promote these British Values within our school community. These values are embedded within our own school values as follows:

At Altrincham Grammar School for Boys, we aim to nurture students who embrace all forms of learning and in so doing are respectful to others, responsible in their attitude and resilient in the face of challenges. We believe that our students are better learners when they are healthy and happy; they are better citizens when they are confident and caring; and they are part of a better school community when they are imaginative and inclusive.

The British Values are:

Democracy

The rule of law

Individual liberty

Mutual respect

Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

(Source: DfE Press Release 23.06.14)

As a school we aim to develop and nurture these by:

- Planning a vibrant, engaging Assembly programme with core ethical values and beliefs at its heart
- A well-structured Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship education programme which addressed all the requirements of the programmes of study (looking at Democracy, Freedom, the rule of law, Human Rights and responsibilities)
- A strong Religious Studies and Ethics programme at every Key Stage, including a well-respected annual Ethics & Philosophy Conference at the Sixth Form centre. Our students are taught to understand that all citizens have the freedom to choose and hold faith and beliefs and that this right is protected in law.
- A strong Politics department at KS5, preparing students well to study this subject in Higher Education
- An effective and well managed School Council, enabling students to actively participate in and experience the power of the democratic process
- A broad and balanced curriculum which addresses many of these core values across a range of subject areas
- Having a clearly communicated and consistently applied Behaviour Policy so that students understand what is expected of them and the consequences of both meeting and failing to meet these expectations
- Having a rigorous commitment to student safety (for example: trips and visits policy and procedures, Safeguarding procedures and Health and Safety procedures.)
- Celebration of the diverse nature of our school community through menus, themed days/events, the Assembly programme, and the choice of texts/resources across the curriculum
- Celebrating achievement beyond the classroom (in areas such as The Arts and Sport.)

In addition, please see bullet points below relating to how we aim to eliminate the possibility of Radicalisation as many of these actions/steps also assist us in affirming and reinforcing core “British Values” of tolerance, respect and the rule of law. Citizens who feel respected, connected and valued within a community are far less likely to be at risk of radicalisation.

We have defined Radicalisation as, “a process by which an individual or group comes to adopt increasingly extreme political, social, or religious ideals and aspirations that (1) reject or undermine the status quo or (2) reject and/or undermine contemporary ideas and expressions of freedom of choice.”

We believe it is when someone feels marginalised or under-valued that there is a greater opportunity for such extremism to be fostered. We aim to prevent the radicalisation of our students/staff by:

- Celebrating diversity through our curricular content
- Providing menu options meet specific dietary requirements
- Providing opportunities/facilities for personal prayer and reflection during the school day
- Making provision for specific periods of religious observance (such as during the month of Ramadan)
- Providing an enriching and diverse Assembly programme with speakers from a range of religious traditions and belief systems
- Providing a Guidance (PHSE programme) that celebrates diversity, challenges stereotypes and addresses issues such as discrimination and prejudice in society as a whole
- Authorising absence appropriately for religious observance
- Ensuring that student rewards programmes offer rewards that are appropriate to those of all faiths and none
- Making provision for students who are in periods of religious observance (such as Ramadan) during school visits/residential stays
- Providing Work Experience placements at KS4 and 5 which offer all students the opportunity to explore career aspirations and raise expectations
- Ensure students learn about how citizens can positively influence decision-making through the democratic process
- Monitoring all job applications in our aim for diversity within our staffing
- Educate students about the protected characteristics detailed within the Equality Act 2010
- Respond rapidly, rigorously and appropriately to any reported incidents of a racist or discriminatory nature, adhering to Local Authority reporting protocols, as required
- Including teaching materials from the PREVENT programme into our PSHE programmes of study
- Liaising closely with the Police's Trafford PREVENT team where a young person's behaviour or expressed beliefs give us cause for concern
- Reinforcing the Teachers Standards (2012) through our Appraisal of teaching staff. Our teachers "uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school."

In summary, our aim is to develop well rounded, educated and reflective students who can confidently move forward beyond school and find their place in the world. We want our students to:

Develop lively, enquiring minds capable of original thought and well-balanced critical argument.

Become confident, independent learners well-equipped for lifelong learning.

Derive enjoyment from their learning which should extend their intellectual capacity, develop their interest and stimulate their curiosity.

Embrace the many opportunities afforded by developments in information and communication technologies, whilst fully accepting the responsibilities that go with using them properly.

Engage in a broad programme of experiences which enable them to appreciate their cultural inheritance and to understand more about themselves and the world in which they live.

Develop the capacities to make informed, rational and responsible decisions and to work in ways which enhance their self-respect and sensitivity to the needs of others, particularly those less advantaged than themselves.

Show respect for each other and all people working in the school, and to appreciate the diverse talents that contribute to our school community.

To play a full part in creating a caring, supportive school environment.

Develop a range of reasoned beliefs and values and a sympathy and respect for those held by others, which will prepare them to become considerate and responsible citizens.

Display self-discipline and proper regard for authority.

Foster good behaviour and to avoid all forms of bullying