

DARUL ULOOM
BRITISH VALUES POLICY
September 2024



Ratified by the Trustee: 30 August 2024
Signed by the Trustee: 30 August 2024

To be reviewed: 01 September 2025



This policy should be read in conjunction with:

1. Safeguarding policy
2. Behaviour policy
3. Anti-bullying policy
4. RSE policy
5. KCSIE 2024
6. Equalities policy
7. Curriculum policy

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Introduction

Darul Uloom is committed to promoting Fundamental British values through our teaching and curriculum provisions. Staff and students recognise the United Kingdom's multi-cultural, multi-faith, and ever-changing nature. We also understand our role in ensuring groups of individuals are not subjected to intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to unduly or illegally influence them.

What are the British values?

The Government emphasises that schools are required to ensure that key 'British Values' are taught in all UK schools, setting out its definition of British Values in the 'Prevent Strategy':

- Democracy
- The Rule of Law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

These values are part of our culture and underpin our school's curriculum and extracurricular activities. We see these as universal values rooted in our faith as Muslims and followers of the final messenger ﷺ, who demonstrated the values mentioned through his actions.

Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) demonstrated core values that align with modern principles such as democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect, and tolerance. Regarding **democracy**, the Prophet practised consultation (Shura) in decision-making, as seen during the Battle of Uhud when he sought input from his companions. The Constitution of Medina, which he established, reflected democratic principles by ensuring participation and mutual agreements between different tribes, including non-Muslim groups.

On **the rule of law**, the Prophet ensured that justice was applied equally to all, regardless of social status. A famous example is his stance on theft, where he declared that even if his daughter committed theft, she would face the punishment, emphasising the principle of fairness and equality before the law. He strongly committed to upholding justice and ensuring everyone was held accountable under the same legal standards.

The Prophet also emphasised **individual liberty**, notably advocating for the freedom of belief. The Quran's statement, "There is no compulsion in religion" (Quran 2:256), exemplifies his support for the right to choose one's faith. Additionally, he allowed people to express their opinions freely, ensuring that individuals could voice their concerns and ideas without fear of reprisal.

Regarding **mutual respect**, the Prophet treated all individuals with dignity, including women, who were afforded a higher status and respect under his leadership. He famously said, "The best of you are those who are the best to their women" (Tirmidhi), emphasising respect for women. He also demonstrated respect for elders and others, fostering an environment of kindness and fairness.

Finally, Prophet Muhammad exhibited **tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs**. His interactions with non-Muslims were marked by respect and peace, such as his treatment of the Christian delegation from Najran, whom he welcomed and allowed to pray in his mosque. The Constitution of Medina also guaranteed religious freedom for Jews and Christians, showing his commitment to peaceful coexistence. The Quran further reinforces this principle with verses like "For you is your religion, and for me is my religion" (Quran 109:6), advocating tolerance for religious differences.

Through these actions, the Prophet Muhammad embodied values that are fundamental to promoting peace, justice, and respect for all individuals.

When publishing the guidance for schools Lord Nash said: *"A key part of our plan for education is to ensure children become valuable and fully rounded members of society who treat others with respect and tolerance, regardless of background. We want every school to promote the basic British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs. This ensures young people understand the importance of respect and leave school fully prepared for life in modern Britain."*

Our Aims

To ensure that:

- We promote British values throughout all aspects of our curriculum
- Our students develop a powerful awareness & understanding of these values
- Our teaching promotes SMSC Education
- we fully meet all relevant Independent Schools Standards
- we do not undermine FBV

We educate our students to build stamina against extremism, which is a vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We will educate our pupils about the dangers of radicalisation. We also pay close attention to protected characteristics as part of our equality agenda, as set out in the Equality Act 2010.

Aims of the Implementation of SMSC

- 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 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 participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.
- teach the importance of law in this country through assemblies, lessons in Citizenship and even Islamic History.
- teach mutual respect towards others with different beliefs and those without beliefs through Religious studies lessons, Citizenship lessons, visits to other faiths, organisations/ places of worship, interacting with pupils of other faiths, creating school displays, and understanding the commonalities of each faith.
- promote democracy by creating a school council, dialogue with local councillors/MPs, and running mock elections and debates.
- we promote the Equality Act and respect all humans equally. We will take firm action against bullying and harm caused to others.

Promoting British Values

We recognise that actively promoting values means challenging opinions or behaviours in our academies that are contrary to fundamental British values. Attempts to promote systems undermining fundamental British values would be entirely at odds with schools' duty to provide SMSC.

Teachers' Standards expect teachers to uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour within and outside school. This includes not undermining fundamental British values.

SLT will work closely with staff to identify, develop, and implement opportunities through teaching, curriculum, and provision for SMSC. We have:

- Schemes of work in different subjects, which include the consideration of topics/areas of study focussing on learning around Democracy, the Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, and Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those with Different Faiths and Beliefs in the *IMPACT* section of delineation
- Students with opportunities in different subjects to write according to the criteria associated with British Values
- Educational visits and visitor support engrained with British Values
- PHSE/Citizenship with a strong focus on British Values

- Our Trustee in charge, SLT and teachers practising British Values

Senior leadership and teachers will support the development of strategies and initiatives to support learning in these regards.

Impact on students

The list below describes the understanding and knowledge expected of students as a result of schools promoting fundamental British values.

- 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 well-being 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; and
- an understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination.

We will publish a statement on our website detailing how we embed British values with their students. The following are examples of which ways British values will be promoted at our school as appropriate for the age of students:

- Thread into suitable parts of the curriculum.
- Ensure that all students within the school have a voice that is listened to and have the opportunity to learn how to argue and defend points of view;
- Use teaching resources from various sources to help pupils understand a range of faiths.
- Provide suitable extra-curricular activities
- Regular collective worship/assemblies
- Involvement in key local, national and international events
- Using democratic processes within the academy community where possible
- Teach students, with appropriate reinforcement, the rules and expectations of their academy.
- Promote opportunities for students to express their views in a safe environment.
- Invite a range of visitors from outside agencies/organisations to reinforce the British values messages
- External trips and extended activities
- Celebrate achievements
- Highlight positivity on the school's weekly briefings

SLT will review, monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of this policy annually – see Curriculum Map.