



**Bucks University Technical College**

**Promoting Fundamental British Values Policy**

**2016-17**

Responsible Officer: Vice Principal  
Date: Sept 2016  
Review date: Sept 2019 (unless preceded by legislation)  
Procedure available: Website/Reception/Learning Centre  
Authorised by: Governing Body

## **Aims**

This policy sets out the ways in which Bucks UTC encourages students to develop their understanding of the four key areas defined by DfE as British values, through the curriculum, extracurricular and other opportunities.

## **Ethos**

At Bucks UTC we ensure that through our vision, values, relationships and teaching we promote tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths and lifestyles.

This ethos is reflected and implemented effectively through UTC policy and practice and that there are safeguarding policies in place to safeguard and promote students' welfare.

We have a duty to prepare our students for life in modern Britain and to keep them safe. Everyone at Bucks UTC has the right to learn and work in safety. We do not tolerate bullying of any kind and will challenge derogatory language and behaviour towards others.

## **Background**

In November 2014 the government published guidance on promoting British values in schools to ensure young people leave school prepared for life in modern Britain. Within this, all schools are required to ensure that the curriculum actively promotes these fundamental British values.

## **Definitions**

Fundamental British values are defined by the DfE as:

- **Democracy:** Respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic process
- **The rule of law:** Respect for the basis on which the law is made and applies in England
- **Individual liberty:** Support and respect for the liberties of all within the law
- **Mutual respect and tolerance:** Support for equality of opportunity for all and respect and tolerance of different faiths and religious and other beliefs

## **Curriculum**

We are committed to ensuring that our students are offered a broad and balanced curriculum that aims to prepare them for life in modern Britain. We encourage our students to be inquisitive learners who are open to new experiences and are accepting of others. Our values support the development of the whole person as a reflective learner within a safe respectful learning environment. Teaching the UTCs' core values alongside the fundamental British values supports quality teaching and learning, whilst making a positive contribution to the development of a fair, just and civil society.

Through our balanced curriculum and SMSC we aim to actively promote principles that:

- 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 in which the UTC is situated, 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 cultures
- Encourage respect for other people, paying particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010

- Encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic process, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England

Some examples of ways in which we actively promote British Values at Bucks UTC

**Democracy:**

- Students play an ever increasing role in UTC decision making through active participation in student council. The student gym and new post-16 common room which is under construction being good examples of this
- Formulate and agree a 'code of conduct' at the beginning of each UTC year.
- Have a UTC council who meet regularly and provide a 'student voice'.
- Each course/year group has two elected representatives on the student council. The student council works on one big idea yearly
- Allow the student voice to be heard, we regularly ask for their views and act on requests where appropriate.
- Students to support the interview process for new teaching staff.
- Discuss democracy and wider issues in politics are covered in both tutorial and in student briefings
- Carry out debates in a wide range of subjects to encourage free speech and allow students to listen to and consider others points of view
- When the Brexit vote took place earlier this year, the UTC put on a student led mock election to demonstrate the mechanics and importance of voting.
- All students are actively encouraged to take part in activities outside of the classroom. Whether this is being a scout leader, taking part in the NCS programme, sport, music, performing arts or the arts.

**The Rule of Law:**

- The UTC behaviour policy supports the rule of law students can expect to find once they leave the UTC. Any misbehaviour is dealt with appropriately and would look to provide reformation, retribution, protection and deterrence.
- Have a clear, consistent behaviour policy (based upon positive rewards) which is consistently applied throughout the UTC.
- Provide opportunities for students to reflect about positive and negative behaviour
- Address issues of law during whole-UTC briefings as and when appropriate.
- Give considerable time to individual students who require additional opportunities to understand the importance of following rules.
- The values and reasons behind laws, as well as the way in which they govern and protect us are covered in a variety of subjects
- Each student signs an agreed code of conduct agreement
- External visitors such as community policing team, addiction, RU Safe and the uniformed services

**Individual Liberty:**

- Within the UTC students are actively encouraged to make choices, whilst knowing they are in a safe and supportive environment
- Students are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our e-Safety teaching.
- Students are encouraged to understand responsibility in the UTC in terms of behaviour and attitude to learning.

- Justice and fairness are key principles within the UTC.
- Students are taught how to be safe and how to act safely. This is given an additional emphasis during anti-bullying week and prior to UTC student holiday periods.

### **Mutual Respect:**

All staff are encouraged to create a nurturing learning environment in which manners, politeness and respect are actively role modelled and demonstrated. Respect and responsibility are key values which permeate all aspects of UTC life.

The UTC has a value of the week where students are recognised for examples of excellence against a given value. The UTC values are:

1. Exceeding expectations
2. Can do attitude
3. Mutual respect in all that we do
4. Integrity, honesty and openness
5. Valuing difference
6. Goal driven one team approach

At Bucks UTC students learn respect through;

- The promotion of positive relationships.
- The modelling of positive relationships by all adults working in the UTC.
- The SMSC curriculum which teaches that behaviour has an effect upon those around them and upon their own rights.
- All other aspects of the curriculum (as successfully working in groups requires respect for each other).
- The work of the UTC council
- The positive reward system developed to promote respect.
- Participation in events organised to raise money for various charities.

### **Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:**

The UTC has a diverse population with most minority groups represented. Tolerance is promoted in the UTC through:

- The stated aims and values of the UTC.
- The SMSC curriculum.
- Year group and whole UTC briefings.
- Work on prejudice-based bullying during anti-bullying week.
- Using world events as opportunities to positively reinforce life and culture in other countries
- A non-negotiable approach towards the expression of views contrary to our agreed set of values.

### **Monitoring and Review**

The Principal and Vice Principal working with the BLT team will collect, study and use quantitative and qualitative data relating to the implementation of this policy, and make adjustments as appropriate.

The policy will be reviewed annually by the Teaching & Learning group of the Governing Body.