



British Values Policy

Our Commitment

Dorset Pathways believe in the importance of delivering a comprehensive and unprejudiced curriculum and therefore understand the responsibility to promote British values.

As an organisation, we commit to doing the best we can to ensure that Dorset Pathways is a positive and supportive place for our young people to develop as citizens.

This includes ensuring that we actively promote British values and also that we provide an atmosphere where our children and young people feel confident to have open and honest conversations with those who work on our team to investigate and gain a deeper understanding of these concepts.

This document

- Defines the role and responsibilities of individuals in the organisation
- Applies to all people who work for and with Dorset Pathways. Our staff, stakeholders, volunteers and contractors
- Supports our aims as an organisation
- Is based on current legislation, government guidance and best practice.

Roles and responsibilities

- The Directors will ensure that all staff are aware of the requirement to uphold British values through the methods outlined in this policy and will ensure that the appropriate procedures are in place to carry out these methods.
- Learning mentors will ensure that their sessions are inclusive of, and sensitive to, the fundamental British values.
- Children and young people are expected to treat each other and staff with respect, in line with the Dorset Pathways's Statement of Purpose and Behaviour Policy.

The key British Values

The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy.

The five key British Values are:

- a. Democracy
- b. The rule of law
- c. Individual liberty
- d. Mutual respect
- e. Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs



a. Democracy

At Dorset Pathways, children and young people have numerous opportunities to have their views heard informally on a daily basis in their one-to-one interactions with their Learning Mentors but also more formally through questionnaires, ILP updates and welfare meetings. Our children and young people are encouraged to have an input into what and how they learn to instil an understanding of democracy for their future. Our RSHE and Citizenship input is integrated into learning sessions and will look at democracy and the role of elections as well as voting in history and the present and its impact on our current lives.

b. The rule of law

Dorset Pathways have a high regard for the laws that govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. At Dorset Pathways, children and young people are encouraged through discussion with their Learning Mentors to investigate and discuss the reasons behind laws, whether they govern the learning sessions and specific sites (or wider society and the country) and to understand that they are essential for their wellbeing and safety. Children and young people are encouraged to ask questions and to debate with their Learning Mentors. We aim to enable children and young people to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of the country and to encourage our children and young people to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those around them and to society more widely.

c. Individual liberty

At Dorset Pathways, we foster a safe and supportive environment where we listen to the voices of the children and young people, and they are actively encouraged to make choices. Whether it is choosing a challenging task or opting for different activities, children and young people have the freedom to base their choices on their interests. Children and young people are taught about their rights and personal freedoms and are encouraged and advised by their Learning Mentors on how to exercise these safely, for instance through discussions and guidance on E-safety and online activities.

d. Mutual respect

Respect is at the core of Dorset Pathway's values. Children and young people are treated with respect and learn to treat each other and staff with respect. This is reinforced through modelling by staff, discussions with Learning Mentors and reflection, our Code of Behaviour, Behaviour Policy and posters and displays at the sites promoting mutual respect.

e. Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

Dorset Pathways acknowledge that tolerance is achieved through children and young peoples' knowledge and understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society. Discussions with Learning Mentors will focus on examples of bullying, with reference to prejudice-based bullying, and discussion is encouraged. We encourage our children and young people from different faiths or religions to share their knowledge with their peers to enhance their learning. We aim to further develop tolerance and



harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling children and young people to acquire an appreciation of, and respect for, their own and other cultures e.g. promoting and celebrating traditions of different faiths.

Staff training

At Dorset Pathways, Learning Mentors are made aware of their responsibilities in terms of British values during their induction. If necessary, staff will be offered the opportunity for further training on upholding the British values policy through our CPD platform.

Referenced Documents and Links

- DfE, Improving the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development of students, Nov 2014
- [Prevent Duty](#)

Authored : Directors

Last Review : August 2023

Next Review : August 2024