



ICHS British Values Statement



Introduction

At ICHS we recognise the importance of supporting students to flourish academically but understand that character education is just as important to pupil's development as academic success. We therefore welcome our role in preparing our students for adult life in modern Britain.

As part of our vision to inspire and nurture our learners and support them to become tomorrow's leaders we have embraced the values of *Integrity, Courtesy, Hard Work* and *Success*. These values permeate the everyday life of the school and complement the delivery of British Values.

The five fundamental British Values identified by the Department for Education are: Democracy, The rule of law, Individual liberty, Mutual respect and Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. The examples that follow give an indication of some of the ways British Values are embedded in the life of our school. They illustrate our approach rather than providing an exhaustive list.

At ICHS our daily pastoral programme is delivered through the Votes for Schools Scheme which explores current affairs through discussion and reflection and maps directly to British Values. Assemblies focus on the ICHS Values of *Integrity, Courtesy, Hard Work* and *Success* which complement the British Values. British Values are an integral part of our classrooms and the curriculum and are clearly identified in Schemes of Learning where they are taught explicitly.

Democracy

Pupils at ICHS are actively encouraged to participate in the democratic process through the election of form group representatives and mock elections that take place alongside national votes and referendums. Students learn about democracy through the History, Religious Studies and Philosophy, Economics and PSHEE curriculums.

Pupils are encouraged to be both politically and culturally aware through our daily pastoral programme where they are asked to explore both sides of a current affairs debate. Pupils with a special interest in this area have the opportunity to study A-Level Politics in our Sixth Form.

Student voice forms a valuable part of our school decision making process and pupils who are elected to leadership positions are encouraged taught how to effectively represent the views of their peers and the importance of considering everybody's viewpoint when making an informed decision and reaching a common consensus.

The rule of law

Pupils at ICHS understand the importance of having a set of fair and transparent rules. Pupils are taught the value and the reasons behind the laws that govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken.

Pupils understand that the rules that govern our school are reflections of the laws that govern the workplace and, wider society. We draw correlations between school rules and the rules that pupils encounter in their day-to-day lives, so pupils are fully aware that there are actions and behaviours which are prohibited and punishable in all contexts and how their behaviour can have an impact – both positive and negative – on those around them.

In order to ensure that pupils respect our rules, we take care to apply them fairly and consistently so that boundaries – and the repercussions of overstepping them – are clearly defined. We have an explicit Behaviour and Discipline Policy and Home-School Agreement, as well as robust Anti-Bullying, and Attendance Policies. Our high expectations with regard to behaviour are regularly reinforced during assemblies and form lessons. Pupils are rewarded and

celebrated for exemplary behaviour, attendance and academic performance. Those who frequently break the rules, meanwhile, are subject to appropriate sanctions.

Personal Development lessons allow pupils to learn about the British legal system, whilst PE lessons mean that students learn about the laws and rules surrounding a wide variety of sports and are given the opportunity to take responsibility for enforcing them fairly when they officiate games.

Individual Liberty

ICHS provides a safe, secure and supportive environment in which our pupils can flourish. Pupils are encouraged to make informed, independent choices and to 'be themselves'. As a school we provide a framework for pupils to exercise their rights, freedoms and responsibilities safely through education and guidance on key topics such as online safety, bullying, child sexual exploitation, physical and emotional abuse, radicalisation and extremism – all of which are built into the pastoral curriculum in an age-appropriate and sensitive manner.

We recognise that our pupils will make their own choices and learn from their own mistakes as part of establishing their identity as individuals, Pupils are encouraged to, resist peer pressure, take responsibility for their own actions and make independent choices.

We value our pupils for their individual talents and contributions, and we encourage them to pursue their specific areas of interest through a variety of enrichment, sporting and leadership activities.

Mutual Respect

Respect is at the heart of our school ethos and is modelled by staff and students every day. The school promotes mutual respect through our values of *Integrity, Courtesy, Hard Work* and *Success* and this can be seen in our learning environments and classrooms. Pupils are encouraged to communicate openly and honestly, and to listen to – and respect – the views of others, even in instances where disagreements arise.

Assemblies and form lessons are designed to highlight the diverse nature of British society and the right for each person to be respected for their choices. We teach pupils that they should never judge a person, and encourage them to become compassionate, open-minded and accepting.

Pupils appreciate that their behaviour has a direct impact on other people and demonstrate their respect for each other by following our school rules, actively modelling the concept of 'fair play' in PE and by participating in leadership roles, and academic and peer mentoring programmes to support each other.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

As a school we aim to support not only tolerance, but also a genuine understanding of different faiths and beliefs that form a part of life in modern Britain. All pupils at ICCHS study Religious Education. Pupils follow the Redbridge Agreed Syllabus in KS3, with their studies culminating in a short course GCSE qualification in KS4. By offering a culturally rich and diverse curriculum in which all major religions of the world are studied and respected, we encourage all pupils to understand and embrace the culturally diverse society in which they live. In Design Technology, pupils will consider the application of tolerance by considering the social, cultural and moral factors around the design, manufacture and sales of products in a global marketplace.

We run a range of different trips abroad throughout the academic year which allow students to gain valuable experiences of other cultures and languages. Activities in school celebrate the diverse cultures of our students by celebrating The European Day of Language and by hosting our International Fair students have the opportunity to share their culture and beliefs and to explore those of others in an environment of mutual respect.