

## **Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) including promoting British Values**

All maintained schools must meet the requirements set out in section 78 of the Education Act 2002 and promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of their students. Through ensuring students' SMSC development, Seaford Head also demonstrates we are actively promoting fundamental British Values.

Students at Seaford Head are encouraged to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance.

There is an expectation that students should understand that while different people may hold different views about what is "right" and "wrong", all people living in England are subject to its law. Seaford Head's ethos and teaching, supports the rule of English civil and criminal law and we do not teach anything that undermines it.

### **Through the provision of SMSC Seaford Head School:**

- enables students to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence;
- enables students to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England;
- encourages students to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to 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;
- enables students to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England;
- encourages further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling students to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures;
- encourages respect for other people; and encourages respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.

The information below describes the understanding and knowledge expected of students as a result of Seaford Head School 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 wellbeing 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.

At Seaford Head School we realise that it is not necessary for individuals to 'promote' teachings, beliefs or opinions that conflict with their own, but nor is it acceptable for individuals to promote discrimination against people or groups on the basis of their belief, opinion or background.

**At Seaford Head School we provide the following:**

- we include in suitable parts of the curriculum, as appropriate for the age of pupils, material on the strengths, advantages and disadvantages of democracy, and how democracy and the law works in Britain, in contrast to other forms of government in other countries (through RS and History);
- we ensure that all students within the school have a voice that is listened to, and demonstrate how democracy works by actively promoting democratic processes such as a school council whose members are voted for by the pupils (student leadership groups and student council);
- we hold elections to promote fundamental British values and provide pupils with the opportunity to learn how to argue and defend points of view (young mayor, student council and national elections);

- we use teaching resources from a wide variety of sources to help students understand a range of faiths, and we consider the role of extra-curricular activity, in promoting fundamental British values.

## **British Values**

### **Promoting British Values at Seaford Head**

The Department for Education state that there is a need “to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.”

The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy and these values were reiterated by the Prime Minister in 2014.

At Seaford Head these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

#### Democracy

We have our own Student Council made up of elected representatives, as well as the senior prefects from our sixth form. We also have a range of other student voice groups, including Year Council linked to school improvement areas and priorities. Students are taught in a variety of ways including: during tutor time where students undertake discussions generated by the Votes for Schools initiative, assemblies and in subject specific content about the importance of democracy. We also have representatives on the Youth Cabinet and who run for the Young Mayor.

#### The Rule of Law

The importance of Laws, whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, is consistently reinforced throughout all aspects of school life. Students and parents are taught the value and reasons behind our rules, that they govern and protect us; the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. We have talks from our Police Liaison Officer to students on the rule of law. We also provide an opportunity for

students to visit the Houses of Parliament and students can undertake extra-curricular debating clubs.

### Individual Liberty

Students are actively encouraged to make their own choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. We educate and provide boundaries for students to make these choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Students are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through E-Safety assemblies, tutor time and SMSC lessons within the PSHE programme. Whether it be through the choice of learning challenge, of how they record work, of participation in our extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, students are given the freedom to make choices.

### Mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

We place a great emphasis on promoting diversity and equality with the student and staff body. Our Ethics lessons, assemblies and tutor time teaching reinforces this. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes. We expect all members of our school to show tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

### Radicalisation and Extremism

Radicalisation is the process by which people come to support terrorism and extremism, and in some cases, participate in terrorist groups. Extremism is the vocal or active opposition to the fundamental British values – tolerance, respect, liberty and democracy.

The school believes and actively supports the view that all students should be protected from radicalisation and extremism. Our approach to this is in line with

the Government's PREVENT strategy (stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism).

Our total commitment to safeguarding student welfare means we are vigilant to monitoring vulnerability to radicalisation including:

- Family incidents
- Sense of isolation
- Migration
- Distance from cultural heritage
- Experience of racism or discrimination
- Feeling of failure

Any concerns must be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Miss Jo Smith who will make a referral using the "Channel" referral form. All teaching and support staff have received full training on Anti-Radicalisation and students have been educated in how to safeguard themselves from this.