

Fundamental British Values and Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural Education at Downlands

<p>Welcome Remarks:</p> <p>In attendance Mr R Davies (Deputy Headteacher), Mr Colin Smith (Head of Teaching & Learning – RS/PDC)</p>	
<p>Fundamental British Values and Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural Education at Downlands</p> <p>British Values – Definitions (as stipulated by DfE/Ofsted):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democracy • The Rule of Laws • Individual Liberty • Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. <p>But are these really British values – dilemma for schools. Parents were surveyed at a recent parent consultation evening and a common comment was “What is SMSC and what does it mean at Downlands?”</p> <p>Schools, like all public organisations, have a responsibility to identify and prevent radicalism. Incorporating this into the curriculum in an interesting manner is challenging.</p>	Mr Davies
<p>PDC: Links to SMSC & Promoting Fundamental British Values 2014-15</p> <p>Downlands have always included SMSC in the curriculum.</p> <p>Downlands look at what it means to be British? Downlands is quite a monocultural school and is not a true reflection of British society. Areas of Britain such as Bradford are examined where the cultural mix is more interesting – looking beyond the locality and looking at multicultural/multifaith societies.</p> <p>SMSC/British Values are covered in the following ways at Downlands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 7: Getting to know others; rules – acceptable v. anti-social behaviour/ passive/aggressive/assertive behaviour patterns. Bullying / body image/ bullying/ puberty and body change. • Year 8: Rights & Responsibilities; rule of law/ police powers/punishment/ civic duty/ Rights of the Child/ Civil v Criminal Law/ Family Types – does a “normal” family really exist – advantages and disadvantages of each family type/ prejudice (Rwanda)/Democracy – voting systems/ struggle for the vote/ local democracy. How can you make a difference? • Year 9: What does it mean to be British? Discuss the fluidity of “Britishness”. Who was St George- why is he the patron saint? Advantages v. disadvantages of a multi-cultural society. 	Mr Smith

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- Year 10: Look at the Law again. Rights when at the police station/ magistrates v. crown court/ punishment and consequences/ sex education and alcohol / Joint Enterprise Law from 1830 – guilty by association and looking at choices. What are human rights (work of Amnesty International).
- Year 11: What is globalisation? What are my responsibilities as a global citizen/ Family / domestic violence/ what makes a great parent?

A positive aspect of the PDC curriculum is that it is not results driven so there is some flexibility. If a student brings an issue to a lesson, there is the possibility to take that and have interesting discussions about real issues.

Main role in PDC is to challenge ignorance, misconceptions and misinformation – students come with views of their own but PDC gives them a different perspective and makes them think.

PDC is taught once every two weeks in Year 7 and once every week in years 8,9,10 and 11.

PDC is compulsory. Downlands considers it more important to consider the agenda than to teach PDC as a GCSE therefore there is no GCSE in Citizenship on offer.

The curriculum is designed to address issues that face our young people not only now but also arming them for the future.

The internet/social media is covered in the bullying units. A local police officer talks to the students about the rule of law / their digital footprint/ social responsibility.

Downlands teaches PDC in an honest and direct manner to dispel myths and challenge ignorance.