



Policy No: 22a(3)

## OUR LADY'S ABINGDON (OLA) BRITISH VALUES POLICY

*This policy, which applies to the whole school, is publicly available on the school website and upon request a copy (which can be made available in large print or other accessible format if required) may be obtained from the School Office.*

### Document Details

Information Sharing Category	School Domain
Version	1
Date Published	September 2022
Authorised by (if required)	Head
Responsible Area	Leadership Team

We comply with the Government guidance and regulations, currently in force, regarding COVID.



**Availability:** All who work, volunteer or supply services to our school have an equal responsibility to understand and implement this policy and its procedures both within and outside of normal school hours, including activities away from school.

### Monitoring and Review:

Reviewed: September 2022

Next Review: September 2023

Signed:

Head	Deputy Head
Mr Daniel Gibbons	Dr Beth Reynaert
Signed: 	Signed: 

### This policy is informed by:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/promoting-fundamental-british-values-through-smsc>

### 1. Aims and intent

Through our curriculum, teaching and learning and ethos, OLA will promote British values. By doing so, we will ensure that all learners understand the values that have traditionally underpinned British society. The teaching of these values will promote cohesiveness within OLA and its community. We will prepare pupils for life in England where the population has an increasingly rich diversity of backgrounds, origins, beliefs, lifestyles and cultures by promoting the values on which our society has been built. By teaching pupils these values we will help all to become good citizens of the UK.

### Our intent is to:

- To ensure that all develop an understanding of the values which underpin life in Britain.
- To teach pupils to have a mutual respect and tolerance for, and an understanding of the various faiths and beliefs represented in Britain today.
- To ensure that all learn to uphold the rule of law and support freedom, justice and equality.
- To help all understand and value the rich diversity that other citizens from different cultures, religions and backgrounds bring to our national society.
- To value people's differences and encourage respect for the protected characteristics, including those of different sexual orientation, those with SEND and those of different religious, racial or cultural backgrounds.
- To develop pupils' awareness and tolerance of communities different to their own
- To value democracy and to stand up for right against wrong.
- To care for the sick, poor, weak and the old and treat them as valued members of society.

*Our Lady's Abingdon is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of pupils and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. It is our aim that all pupils fulfil their potential.*

*British Values Policy: Reviewed September 2022*

- To ensure that learners become loyal and patriotic citizens of the UK

## 2. Implementation

**Democracy:** We listen to children's and parents' voice through our student and parent feedback surveys and through Student voice and 'meet the teacher' parent events. Our school behaviour policy is clear that children are expected to contribute and co-operate, taking into account the views of others.

**The Rule of Law:** We consistently reinforce our high expectations of children. Children are taught the value and reasons behind our expectations (rules) that they are there to protect us, that everyone has a responsibility and that there are consequences when rules are broken.

**Individual Liberty:** Within OLA, children are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. At OLA, we educate and provide boundaries for young children to make choices safely, through our provision of a safe environment and empowering teaching. Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms.

**Mutual Respect:** Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy has revolved around Core Values such as 'Respect', and children are modelled this by caring, sharing and listening to others. The staff help children to understand how to respect by talking about how actions/words can affect others.

**Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:** We aim to enhance children's understanding of different faiths and beliefs by participating in a range of celebrations throughout the year. Children have the opportunity to dress-up in clothes and try different foods from other cultures and we encourage parents/carers to participate and support our multi-cultural events.

## 3. Impact on pupils

Through OLA's work and partnerships, pupils will gain a good understanding of the values that underpin the privileges, rights, responsibilities and duties of citizenship. We will equip young people with the knowledge, skills and understanding to make a positive contribution to the good of our local and national community. We will develop responsible young people who support and positively value community cohesion. We also teach British Values in planned assemblies for every child and celebrate events as they occur.

## 4. How does OLA promote British Values?

- Democracy
- Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs



### We have a duty to promote:

- An appreciation of democracy – local and national government, the right to vote and choose
- An understanding of rules and laws – why we have them, how they govern OLA and our country
- The practice of individual liberty – personal freedom and how to exercise it safely
- A belief in mutual respect
- An atmosphere of tolerance

### How does this happen at OLA?

Teaching British Values runs through all subjects and aspects of school life.

- British Values are modelled by all adults involved in OLA.
- British Values provide a clear awareness of and a framework for acceptable behaviour against which all choices of behaviour are evaluated.
- British Values are included in assembly planning and discussions, and this is supported by the children having access to our British Values notice board plus notices in every classroom.

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## 5. **DEMOCRACY: How is Democracy promoted?**

Children, parents and staff have many opportunities to be heard at OLA. Democracy is central to how we operate.

- Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council and this demonstrates democracy in action. The children consider characteristics important for a school council member. Made up of two members from each form the School Council meets to discuss issues raised by the different forms.
- Our Positive Behaviour Code involves rewards and sanctions and this is shared through all aspects of OLA life from Year 3 to Upper Sixth.
- Children are always listened to by adults and taught to listen carefully and with concern to each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard. We encourage pupils to take ownership of the OLA environment but also their own learning and progress.
- The children choose charities to support throughout the year, discussing and planning fundraising events
- There are focussed activities about parliamentary democracy
- Encouraging volunteering eg playground helpers.
- The parents' opinions are welcomed through questionnaires and through methods such as working groups for areas such as marketing, regular parent meetings, Coffee and Connect events and 'meet the teacher'.

## 6. **RULE OF LAW: How is Rules of Law promoted?**

The importance of rules and laws, whether they be those that govern our school or our country, are referred to and reinforced often, such as in assemblies, the classroom, the dining hall, the playground and when reflecting on behaviour choices. At the start of each academic year, each class discusses the **OLA B.A.S.I.C.S pupil expectations**. These are necessary to ensure that every class member is able to learn in a safe and ordered environment. Pupils are taught the values and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken.

### **These values are reinforced in different ways:**

- assemblies with community police officer
- trip to magistrates and children put into a cell
- Visits from the Fire Service
- During Religious Education the children look at the rule and laws surrounding different faiths
- During other school subjects, eg Physical Education where there is respect and appreciation for different rules

Children who are particularly good role models and highlight the ethos of OLA in their actions receive Classchart and House Points.

## 7. **INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY: How is Individual Liberty promoted?**

We promote freedom of choice and the right to respectfully express views and beliefs. Through the provision of a safe, supportive environment we provide boundaries for our students to make choices safely, for example:

- Choices about what learning challenge or activity they undertake
- Choices about how they record their learning
- Participation in competitions both internal and external including academic challenges and sporting opportunities eg spelling bee, chess competition, ISA football and netball, red team matches
- Choices regarding their participation in extra-curricular activities
- Children 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/PSHEE lessons, SMSC/British Value

## 8. **MUTUAL RESPECT & TOLERANCE: Mutual Respect and Tolerance for those of Different faiths and beliefs**

Our students know and understand that they are expected to show respect to everyone, whatever differences they may have. The students are also taught to respect the school environment and the world around them. They learn that their behaviour choices have an effect on OLA and society and that they must be equipped with the skills to make the right choices. The student's understanding and respect for different faiths and beliefs are developed through specific aspects of the curriculum such as:

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- Religious education lessons
- SMSC/PSHCE where we develop an awareness and appreciation of other cultures
- In English through fiction
- In art and music by considering cultures from other parts of the world
- Celebrations and displays of other festivals eg Diwali, Chinese New Year
- In our support of our house charities

Our OLA B.A.S.I.C.S also addresses treating others with care and kindness.