

Our promotion of British values

Overview

The government set out their definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. These were reinforced in September 2014 due to recent events. These new regulations will sit alongside the requirements of the Equalities Act, which also applies to all types of education establishments.

All will be expected to focus on, and be able to show, how our work with learners is effective in embedding fundamental British values.

Promoting British values at AVCT

We agree with the Department for Education's four-part definition of British values:

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

At the AVCT our learners will encounter these principles throughout everyday life. In particular, our promotion of spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding has been described by Ofsted as being, "constantly and successfully promoted".

The learner's individual curriculum is mapped in detail and embeds the five parts. Listed below are some examples of how we promote these values in our centre:

Democracy

Learner voice is significant in regards to life at AVCT. Learners have a great amount of input in regards to what and how they learn, which promotes pupil voice. For example, the learners decide as a group how they would like to learn certain skills in subjects and this is used to inform the tutor's planning. Learner questionnaires and interviews are also conducted throughout the year.

The Rule of Law

Our learners will encounter rules and laws throughout their entire lives. We want our learners to understand that whether these laws govern the group, the centre, the neighbourhood or the country, they are set for good reasons and must be adhered to.

This understanding of the importance of rules will be consistently reinforced through tutorials and our SOW. The involvement of our learners in the creation of the centre rules helps them to understand the reasons behind the rules and the consequences if they are broken. Through philosophical enquiry in our philosophy for learning, we allow opportunity to debate and discuss the reasons for laws so that learners can recognise the importance of these for their own protection. Throughout the year we welcome visits from members of the wider community as we believe that clear explanations and real life stories emphasise the importance of the rule of law for our learners.

Individual Liberty

We invest a great deal of time in creating a positive culture in our centre, so that learners are in a safe environment where choices and freedoms are encouraged. In tutorials, learning tasks are often left for the learner to decide upon. We encourage learners to choose the task that will challenge them, giving them more freedom to determine their own learning whilst meeting the SOW set. Through our E-Safety, philosophy for learning, we educate learners on their rights and personal freedoms as well as supporting them in recognising how to exercise these freedoms safely. At AVCT we believe that valuing choice and freedom in daily life will foster a value for individual liberty as the learners embark upon their lives.

Mutual respect Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

Mutual respect is at the core of our centre. Learners learn to treat each other and staff with great respect. This is evident when walking around the centre and in the training rooms. AVCT believes that everyone has the right to learn and achieve this partnership is seen throughout the various relationships between students and staff. AVCT offers a culturally rich and diverse curriculum in which all major religions are respected. At AVCT we strongly believe that tolerance is gained through knowledge and understanding. Through our SOW and the routines of our daily training, we strive to demonstrate tolerance and help children to become knowledgeable and understanding citizens who can build a better Britain for the future.