



Bedford Free School – how we promote & reinforce British Values

BFS is a values driven school – with respect, honesty & high expectations at the heart of everything we do.

Right from our first day of opening, we have constantly asked students to reflect and embody these values in their thoughts and actions.

As a school, we are committed to ensuring that wider 'British' values underpin all aspects of the education and curriculum we offered our students. These include democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

The table below lists the key knowledge and understanding underpinning these values, and some of the ways that we will ensure that our students are able to engage with and develop their appreciation of them.

Knowledge & understanding	How BFS actively promotes this
An understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process	Through our Student Voice / student leadership programme, in Global Communities lesson, and through other opportunities as they present themselves (e.g. visits to Parliament, talks from the Mayor & local MP, participation in the Youth Cabinet elections)
An appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their wellbeing and safety	Explicitly in Humanities & Global Communities lessons
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 hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law;	Explicitly in: Humanities & Global Communities lessons, assembly, and the R.E. curriculum
An acceptance that 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;	Through promotion of the School's value of Respect; Behaviour policy; Equality & Diversity statement & its implementation; code of conduct
An understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination.	

(Updated – July 2015)