

British Values Statement

Promoting British values

The Italia Conti Academy is committed to serving its community. It recognises the multi-cultural, multi faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom. It also understands the vital role it has in ensuring that groups or individuals within the school are not subjected to intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to unduly, or illegally, influence them.

It follows equal opportunities guidance which guarantees that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status, or similar. The Academy is dedicated to preparing students for their adult life beyond the formal curriculum and ensuring that it promotes and reinforces British values to all its students.

The Government emphasises that schools are required to ensure that key 'British Values' are taught in all UK schools. The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy.

The five British Values are:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

The academy uses strategies within its curriculum and beyond to secure such outcomes for students. The examples that follow show some of the many ways the Academy seeks to embed British values.

Democracy

The principle of democracy is consistently being reinforced at the Academy, with democracy processes being used for important decisions within the school community, for instance, elections being held to select student reps who speak on student's behalf. The principle of democracy is also practiced and encouraged through discussion (freedom of speech), debate, and student questionnaires which in turn may influence academy policy and therefore improvement.

The rule of law

The importances of laws, whether they are those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced at the Academy.

Students are taught the rules and expectations of the school which are highlighted by the student code of conduct and student expectations. Students are taught the value and the reasons behind laws that govern and protect us, the responsibilities

that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service reinforce this message.

Individual liberty

At the Academy, students are actively encouraged to make independent choices, with the knowledge that they are in a safe, secure and supportive environment. Staff at the Academy educate and provide boundaries for students to make informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education.

Students are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised on how to exercise these safely, for example through e-safety and classroom based work.

The Academy has a robust anti-bullying culture and has in place a comprehensive code of conduct Policy.

Mutual Respect

Respect is a strong part of the Academy which is embedded, in its practices and expected by all. Respect forms part of the Academy's Values. Students learn that their behaviours has an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect and this is reiterated through its teaching and learning environments.

Mutual respect is embraced throughout the curriculum by providing the opportunity for students to express their views in a safe environment with the Academy's ethos being 'allow one voice – so that the thoughts and answers of all are respected'.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

This is achieved though equipping students with the ability to understand their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving the opportunities to experience such diversity within the school community. Students benefit from a number of international visitors, including students from other continents and cultures. Additionally, students are actively encouraged to share their faith and beliefs within the school and celebrate festivities throughout the calendar year.

The Academy strives to ensure that its students leave with the strongest foundation of values upon which to build a successful life and a successful contribution to our Society.

Our Values

We strongly value learning and working in an inclusive and ethical environment, respectful of all those with whom we interact. We strive to encourage the highest achievement for all our stakeholders, nurturing progression and adding value in all our areas of operation. At the heart of our value system is a commitment to:

- A safe and rewarding environment for our students and staff. We recognise the investment our students make in their time with us and we will seek to deliver an exceptional experience by making students our priority

We will invest in our staff and reward excellence to ensure our students continue to receive training and support from a highly professional and dynamic team.

- A culture of quality delivery and performance. We will present our learners at all levels of education with opportunities to excel by focusing on offering and delivering inspiring teaching and learning. In so doing, we will enable our students to maximise their potential in our creative, supportive and inspirational learning environment.
- An inclusive and welcoming community. As a small specialist provider with clarity of vision and common threads of interest within our diverse curriculum, we will nurture a culture of mutual support and respect, where stakeholders feel welcomed and empowered to gain from their experience with us, as students, as staff, as visitors and as business partners.
- An ethical approach. We are committed to delivering a curriculum that is fit for purpose, of quality and sound financial value; maintaining a safe environment in which to learn and to relax. We will take care in selecting partners with a synergy of vision and a shared passion for developing the environment and our aspirations to make a positive difference to the world around us.