

**Italia Academy of Theatre Arts**  
**Promoting British Values Policy**

**OVERVIEW**

The DfE has recently reinforced the need “to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.”

The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy, and the Prime Minister has reiterated these values this year.

We value the diverse ethnic backgrounds of all students, staff and families and undertake a variety of events and lessons to celebrate these. We teach our children to be tolerant and respectful towards others, embracing the differences in our community and the wider world. At The Italia Conti Academy Theatre Arts School these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

**Democracy**

Students have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council and Tutorials. Student Council meetings are chaired by Mrs Rae and attended by the Head Boy and Head Girl who are directly elected by staff and pupils. In these meetings pupils are able to discuss themes and issues which affect their life within the school. The School Council is genuinely able to effect change within the school.

We have also developed a closer partnership with Islington Council in giving our pupils the opportunity to speak and listen to fellow students in the wider community. All of our pupils have the opportunity to represent the school at the borough’s Youth Council.

Pupils are also given the opportunity to apply for a prefect responsibility through a formal process outlined by the school.

In addition, pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through School Voice activities whereby subject leaders meet with children to discuss their learning.

**The Rule of Law**

The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout the school day, as well as when dealing with school conduct and through school assemblies. Pupils are taught the

value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken.

### **Individual Liberty**

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for our young people to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Pupils 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 and PSHCE/Tutorial lessons.

### **Mutual Respect**

We have a values-led approach to school assemblies and behaviour management. "Respect" is one of our core values and students take part in discussions and assemblies related to what this means and how it is shown. Students also are mindful of others within their classes in demonstrating core values. Each year group has a tutorial each week which reinforces these values. Our ethos emphasises respect for others and this is reiterated through our practice and through policies (such as Behaviour Management and Anti-Bullying).

We actively promote courtesy and good manners towards all.

Although numbers from some groups may be low, our community is still made up of people from a wide range of backgrounds. We aim to promote the understanding and appreciation of different faiths and cultures both within our school and the wider world.

We actively monitor and tackle all forms of bullying and harassment (this includes cyber-bullying, prejudice-based bullying related to appearance, SEND, sex, race, religion and belief, disability, sexual orientation or gender reassignment).

At The Italia Conti Academy Theatre Arts School we will actively challenge students, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including "extremist" views.