

Ruskin Mill Trust Promoting Fundamental British Values Policy Statement	
Date approved by Executive Team	Jun 2019
Date for next review	2020/2021 academic year
Compliance Lead	
Agreed Policy file name	RMT Accessibility Plan
Agreed policy location	RMT Information/Policies and Procedures RMT

Ruskin Mill Trust are committed to promoting Fundamental British Values throughout our timetable and provisions.

Aims

To ensure that:

- Each provision promotes fundamental British values (FBV) effectively.
- Students develop a very strong awareness & understanding of values.
- The trust fully meets relevant Independent schools standards
- The trust does not undermine FBV by the use of inappropriate or outdated materials and resources.

Background

Prevent Strategy document, June 2011: the glossary of terms stated that - Extremism is vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas.

Teachers' Standards, Personal and professional conduct - apply to teachers in independent as well as maintained schools and requires that Teachers uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school, by not undermining FBV, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Independent Schools Standards: January 2013

Proprietors must 'ensure that principles are promoted that encourage pupils to respect the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs'. New regulation introduced to fulfil a pledge made in the Prevent strategy, alongside other new regulations that preclude 'the promotion of partisan political views in the teaching of any subject in the school.'

Prohibition on participation in management, Sept 2014 - The regulations give the Secretary of State the power to prohibit people from managing independent schools as proprietors or senior teachers, who have 'engaged in relevant conduct' that 'is aimed at undermining the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs'.

Independent Schools Standards revision: September 2014

Proprietors must 'actively 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'. This regulation is now prominent in Part 2 (SMSC) of the regulations.

Current position (from 5 January 2015) – Independent schools standards

British values are referred to 3 times

1 – Part 1 (Quality of Education, Curriculum) - 2(1)(b)(ii) written policy, plans and schemes of work must not undermine the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

2 – Part 1 (Q o E, Teaching) – 3(i) regulation specifies that the teaching must not undermine the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

3 – Part 2 (SMSC) – 5(a) regulation specifies the proprietor must actively 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 Independent schools standards guidance indicates that in terms of actively promoting democracy, inspectors should look for evidence of opportunities within the school curriculum and beyond it to learn about democracy and to promote fundamental British values, and for pupils to engage in discussion and debate covering a range of different viewpoints.

What is 'Britishness'?

Fundamental British values are defined by the DfE as:

(a) **Democracy**: Respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic process.

(b) **The rule of law**: Respect for the basis on which the law is made and applies in England.

(c) **Individual liberty**: Support and respect for the liberties of all within the law.

(d) **Mutual respect and tolerance**: Support for equality of opportunity for all and respect and tolerance of different faiths and religious and other beliefs.

How Ruskin Mill Trust will promote British Values

The organisation has ultimate responsibility for promoting understanding and learner awareness of this subject and will ensure that these are effective, robust and reviewed on a regular basis.

- Provide students and staff with British Values information in public areas.
- Explain clearly the need for British Values.
- Establish sessions where British Values are promoted with relevant learning resources.
- Lesson plans in different subjects will include the consideration of topics/areas of study focussing on learning around Democracy, the Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, and Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those with Different Faiths and Beliefs.
- Students will have opportunities in different subjects to write about and discuss British Values.
- Equality and Diversity calendar will reflect celebrations and recognise relevant areas of consideration.
- Sessions will include focus clearly on FBVs,
- Opportunities to discuss and debate British Values will be clearly planned for and resources provided.
- Displays of work and clear guidance will include British Values oriented themes.
- Educational visits and speakers support learning around British Values.

Senior Managers, Tutors and designated staff will support the development of strategies and initiatives to support learning.

SMT will review, monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of this policy regularly and at least annually, as will the proprietor.