



# EVA British Values Policy



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V2	12.09.20	R Hardy	Front cover change – no changes to policy
V3	16.5.23	L Dyer	New Branding – submitted for review

## Policy Statement

Edlington Victoria Academy is committed to serving its community. We recognise the multi-cultural, multi-faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom. We understand the vital role we have in ensuring that groups or individuals within school are not subjected to intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to unduly or illegally influence them.

Edlington Victoria Academy 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. We are dedicated to ensuring that pupils become responsible and fully rounded members of society who treat others with respect and leave Edlington Victoria fully prepared for life in modern Britain.

These values are defined as:

- Democracy
- Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

These values are taught throughout our broad and balanced curriculum which has been designed to promote understanding of them and how these are prevalent in modern Britain. Our curriculum themes are:

- Identity and Social Justice
- Power, Leadership and Invasion
- Sustainability/Impact on our World

Each value is also reinforced through our PSHE scheme of work, Jigsaw.

At Edlington Victoria Academy, British Values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

### Democracy

Democracy is an important value at our school and our Junior Leadership Team demonstrates this in action. Pupils consider the characteristics important for being an effective representative and write a reply to the Principal's job description who then selects the team. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voice heard through our Junior Leadership Team which is then shared at regular meetings with the Principal. The team is able to effect change within the school and the community. A consultation was sent to parents to suggest charities that school could support. These were then shortlisted by the Junior Leadership Team and one was selected by them – The ECO Centre. They also lead assemblies such as anti-bullying, racism and LGBTQ+ to raise awareness and make positive changes.

Staff encourage pupils to know that their views count, to value each other's views and listen with care, and to share their feelings. They also encourage pupils to take ownership of not only their school but also of their own learning and progress. This encourages a sense of both personal and social responsibility and is demonstrated on a daily basis by our pupils.

### The Rule of Law

The importance of laws and rules, whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced at Edlington Victoria Academy.

Pupils are taught the values and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from

authorities such as the community support police officers, fire service etc. are regular parts of our school calendar and help reinforce this message. Cycling proficiency sessions led by Modeshift Stars support our active travel work and enable pupils to understand the rules of the road and the potential dangers encountered should they break those rules.

Staff ensure that pupils understand their own and others' behaviour and the consequences that come with them. To encourage and promote good behaviour, attitude and learning behaviours, staff follow the academy's 'Behaviour Blueprint'. Pupils learn to distinguish right from wrong and follow our 'Academy Rules' which encourage them to be gentle, be kind, listen carefully, be honest, work hard and look after property. Our 'Core Values' are also modelled by staff and encourage pupils to collaborate, evaluate, investigate, and adopt resilient and motivated learning behaviour.

A 'traffic light' system is consistently followed throughout school and pupils are rewarded with golden time at the end of the week. Rewards include individual, class and whole school. We endeavour to praise pupils informally, individually, during group work, in front of the whole class and the whole school. Pupils are rewarded not only for achievement in curriculum areas, but for behaviour and general adherence to the school rules. Pupil's achievements are celebrated during weekly 'Proud Thursday' assemblies, daily midday supervisor 'Star of the Day' lunchtime awards and staff send home postcards to share achievements of pupils with their families.

### Individual Liberty

As a school we give pupils strategies to communicate respectfully so that they can make choices safely and become as independent as possible through the provision of a safe environment and carefully planned curriculum. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are given strategies to communicate to exercise these safely, for example through our e-Safety teaching. The RE curriculum also encourages pupils to express what they believe personally about religion. Pupils are also given the freedom to make choices and express their preferences, e.g. signing up for extra-curricular clubs.

Through reflective learning practices such as self and peer assessment and the 'Learning Pit', pupils are encouraged to take ownership of ways they can improve their learning and progress, giving them a sense of personal and social responsibility. Edlington Victoria raise awareness of anti-bullying each year to ensure that building healthy, positive relationships is at the forefront of our PSHE lessons. We follow the programme 'Discovery RE' which is designed to support pupil understanding of different beliefs and how core values run central to religious groups and good life practices.

### Mutual Respect

At Edlington Victoria Academy, we insist that all pupils, all staff and all visitors to our school are treated with dignity and respect. This is expressed by all demonstrating good manners and fostering positive and professional relationships. Pupils learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with courtesy and respect, and these values underpin all teaching and learning and all relationships in our school.

Mutual respect is explicitly taught through behaviours for learning, such as active listening and positive speaking and presentation. Pupils are actively encouraged to express their views in a safe environment and through the Junior Leadership Team, where decisions are discussed openly and with respect. The content of phase assemblies explicitly teaches mutual respect, for example, themes include respect, religious festivals, historically important events and people, and 'Protected Characteristics' etc. Trust competitions also encourage the values of sportsmanship, teamwork and fair play through practical learning opportunities.

Our involvement with Activ8 also encourages the values of sportsmanship, team work and fair play during PE sessions and during lunch time.

### Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

This is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity in our local community which is predominantly White British. Discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been supported by learning in RE and PSHE. Staff aim to enhance pupil understanding and respect for other cultures, faiths and beliefs through the curriculum such as:

- Creative Arts - by considering cultures from around the world through music, art and dance.
- Knowledge & Understanding of the World - through organising Themed Weeks where we celebrate and enjoy the differences between other countries and cultures. Such as International Week, Careers Week.
- English and ICT – where there are opportunities to explore cultures and traditions from other parts of the world using a wide range of fiction, nonfiction texts and the internet.
- PSHE, Health and Wellbeing – where Jigsaw and Circle Time are important tools for promoting mutual tolerance and respect.
- RE – all pupils in school develop awareness, knowledge and appreciation of different faith and feelings of belonging to different groups. Pupils are encouraged to share their own experiences when celebrating their own faith. Activities within school support both pupils and adults of different or no faith and pupils are taught respect and tolerance of these groups and the opinions of the groups are taken into account with all activities. Whilst instances contrary to our values are relatively rare, each is treated seriously in line with our policies and expectations.
- Current affairs – pupils learn about life and culture in other countries that are hosting sporting events such as the Olympics and World Cup.
- Assemblies - Whole school assemblies and teaching and learning in classes celebrate festivals from different religions through the year.