

Life in Modern Britain

The revised Governors' Handbook explicitly states: "Every effort should be made to ensure the school's ethos promotes the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs; and encourage students to respect other people, with particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010. The governing body should ensure that this ethos is reflected and implemented effectively in school policy and practice and that there are effective risk assessments in place to safeguard and promote students' welfare. The Department for Education has produced advice for maintained schools on the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils, which includes references to promoting British Values."

In response, Our Lady and St Chad Catholic Academy Directors are committed to 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 is done through the effective spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of students, including through our extra-curricular activity and work within our local community. Tolerance is at the heart of our RE curriculum as it explores other faiths and appreciates the views of those with no faith.

Safeguarding children and adults and providing early intervention to protect and divert people away from being drawn into extremist activity is a key aim of a British curriculum and Our Lady and St Chad Catholic Academy supports and actions this view.

The risk factors that support an assessment of vulnerability are (for students/staff):

- Spending increasing time in the company of other suspected extremists.
- Changing their style of dress or personal appearance to accord with the group.
- Their day-to-day behaviour becoming increasingly centred on an extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Loss of interest in other friends and activities not associated with the extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Possession of material or symbols associated with an extremist cause (for example the swastika for far right groups).
- Attempts to recruit others to the group/cause/ ideology.
- Communications with others that suggest identification with a group/cause/ideology. The Principal of Our Lady and St Chad Catholic Academy will seek advice from the police if any of the above signs ever become evident at the Academy.