



BRITISH VALUES AND CHALLENGING EXTREMISM STATEMENT

**This policy applies to all the academies in
Lionheart Academies Trust**

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Signed: Chair of Board

Date:

British Values and the Challenging of Extremism

In Lionheart Academies Trust schools we are proud to be multicultural and multi-faith, but we also recognise the challenges posed to our pupils from a number of different sources. Al Qaida-influenced groups, dissident Irish republican terrorist groups and UK-based extremist groups including racist and fascist organisations and far-right extremist groups all pose a threat to public order and the British multicultural way of life.

Our underpinning values and principles as part of the Lionheart Academies Trust are:

- Trust
- Openness
- Good communication
- Outward facing (local, regional, national and international)
- Confidence about being different and the difference that can make

To ensure that we can support our local community and protect our students from groups or individuals who may seek to radicalise them, we have a number of strategies in place.

As a school, we aim to:

- Understand how an extremist narrative which can lead to harm can be challenged by staff in schools; and model to students how diverse views can be heard, analysed and challenged in a way which values freedom of speech and freedom from harm.
- Understand how to prevent harm to students by individuals, groups or others who promote violent extremism, and manage risks within the school.
- Understand how to support individuals who are vulnerable through strategies to support, challenge and protect.
- Increase the resilience of students and of school communities through helping students acquire skills and knowledge to challenge extremist views, and promoting an ethos and values that promote respect for others (part of the shared British Values).
- Use teaching styles and curriculum opportunities which allow grievances to be aired, explored and demonstrate the role of conflict resolution and active citizenship.

We utilise a variety of specific strategies to achieve these goals, specifically:

- Providing effective student support processes - peer mentoring, staff mentoring, counselling and external links such as behaviour support.
- Raising staff awareness on key issues - safeguarding training is completed by all staff and updated annually.
- Form good links with police and other partners to share information.
- Access external support from statutory or voluntary organisations.
- Use curriculum to promote community cohesion
- Promote community cohesion, equalities and wellbeing.
- Implement effective anti-bullying policies.
- Focus on narrowing the attainment gap for all groups.
- Promote students' wider skill development in teaching and learning through the promotion of the 4 Rs (Respect, Responsibility, Resourcefulness, Resilience, Reflection).
- Encourage active citizenship and student voice.
Report regularly to our Governors and Trust Board action we are taking to promote British Values and to counter and challenge extremism.