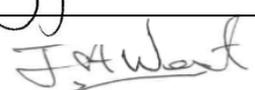

British Values Statement

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	Chair of Governors 

Statement of intent

Paxman Academy is required under section 78 of the Education Act 2002 to promote the spiritual, moral, mental and physical development of pupils. As of November 2014, schools also need to promote fundamental British values as part of the school curriculum. The five British Values are:

- Democracy.
- The rule of law.
- Individual liberty.
- Mutual respect.
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

Paxman Academy is committed to serving its community. It recognises the multi-cultural, multi-faith and ever-changing nature of the UK. It also understands the vital role it has in ensuring that groups or individuals within the school are not subjected to intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to unduly, or illegally, influence them.

It 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. Paxman Academy is dedicated to preparing pupils for their adult life beyond the formal, examined curriculum and ensuring that it promotes and reinforces British values to all its pupils.

The DfE has suggested that pupils are taught about fundamental British values during their spiritual, moral and cultural (SMSC) classes. Pupils are expected to display knowledge of the fundamental aspects of British values. The government has outlined their expectations, stating that pupils should:

- Understand the democratic process and how citizens can have a say in decision making.
- Recognise the advantages to living under the rule of law and how law is essential for a safe society.
- See that there is a separation of power and why it exists.
- Understand the reasons for accountability of institutions and why courts maintain independence.
- Know why freedom of religion protects all faiths, as well as those with no faith.
- Accept that people who hold different religious beliefs should be tolerated and not be discriminated against.
- Value the importance of identifying and combating extremism.

Paxman Academy does not have to promote or teach any particular belief, view or way of life that contradicts our outlook or ethos; however, we will not promote discrimination, or accept intolerance against people or groups, on the basis of their belief, opinion or background.

Paxman Academy is committed to ensuring that children become valuable and rounded members of society, treating each other with respect and tolerance regardless of background. The teaching of British Values can take place discreetly through the school ethos and everyday experiences in school and directly through dedicated teaching time. Direct teaching will commonly occur through tutor time and PSHE allocation but it can form part of many other subjects.

Examples of how British Values could be covered within the curriculum are:

Democracy

- Understanding how the British voting system works and how it affects the government.
- Linking teaching to local and national elections
- Establishment of School Council and leadership positions for students through democratic processes

The rule of law

- Discussing how the rule of law affects everyday lives including wellbeing and safety
- Liaison work with the local community through the police force or County Court

Individual freedom

- Understanding why separation of powers is beneficial to society and why courts are independent
- Importance of powers such as the police and the army
- Making students aware that accountability exists throughout society and why it is so important
- Creating awareness of the dangers associated with radicalisation and how to report concerns

Mutual respect

- Understanding why freedom of religion is important
- Understanding that the freedom to choose faiths and beliefs is protected in law
- Identifying different backgrounds, cultures and beliefs
- Importance of tackling discrimination, behaviour and bullying

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

- Understanding different beliefs and exploring behaviour associated with this
- Understanding that tolerating others leads to their own beliefs being protected
- Community liaison work with local faith groups and individuals