

Safeguarding - British Values

Britain today

Britain has changed drastically over the last 100 years; socially, economically and culturally.

Fundamental British Values underpin what it is to be a citizen in a modern and diverse Great Britain, valuing our community and celebrating diversity of the UK.

They can be used to find common values amongst many different types of groups and individuals.



What are British Values?

When we ask this question, answers often include the following:

- Being polite
- Eating fish and chips
- Having a monarchy
- Queuing
- Drinking cups of tea
- Talking about the weather
- Roast dinners on a Sunday

These are stereotypes that are associated with being British, rather than values.



Values and Stereotypes

What are Stereotypes?

Stereotypes are generalised beliefs about a particular category of people. They can be formed during our upbringing when we take on views of family and friends, or from our own experiences.

Stereotypes are expectations that people might have about every person of a particular group. The type of expectation can vary and it can include preconceptions about the group's personality, preferences or ability.

What are Values?

Values are principles or standards of behaviour. Individuals make judgements on what is important in life and this informs the way they behave and treat others.



Fundamental British Values

The 4 recognised Fundamental British Values are:

- Democracy
- The Rule of Law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance for those with different beliefs and faiths, including those with no faith



Democracy

Definition: A culture built upon freedom and equality, where everyone is aware of their rights and responsibilities. People are able to freely express their opinions.

How does this relate to my everyday home and work life?

- The right to vote in local and general elections and referenda
- The right to protest and petition
- Team meetings – agreeing objectives and goals
- Joint decision making
- Gathering feedback e.g. through surveys



Rule of Law

Definition: The framework that supports the equality of all citizens before the law, the need for rules preventing the unreasoned use of power whilst allowing people to live and work in safe and secure environments.

How does this relate to my everyday home and work life?

- Legislation
- Codes of conduct within work or groups we are members of
- Policies and procedures in the workplace
- How we conduct ourselves in our daily lives



Individual Liberty

Definition: Individual liberty means each of us having the freedom to make our own choices and do what we want – within reason. As long as we respect the other three British Values and the rights of others, then we are free to pursue our ambitions, and follow our own volition (*theday.co.uk*)

How does this relate to my everyday home and work life?

- Equality and Human Rights
- Personal development plans
- Career and life choices
- Consent, individuality and personality



Mutual Respect and Tolerance

Definition: Mutual respect is understanding that we all don't share the same beliefs and values. Respecting the values, ideas and beliefs of others whilst not imposing our own on others.

How does this relate to my everyday home and work life?

- How we interact with people who hold different views to our own
- Workplace policies such as Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
- Recognising stereotypes in ourselves and others and challenging these views appropriately



Mutual Respect and Tolerance (continued)

Celebrating religious and cultural events and festivals

Embracing diversity such as:

Race	Politics	Marital Status
Culture	Religion	Values and beliefs
National Origin	Ethnicity	Socio-economic differences
Region	Disability	Age
Gender	Family structure	Sexual orientation
Health		



Prevent Strategy

The Prevent Strategy is all about raising the awareness of radicalisation and extremism and preventing young and vulnerable individuals being drawn into violent extremism and terrorism.

By integrating the British Values into our daily lives, we will encourage tolerance of other cultures, religions and beliefs (whatever they may represent). Being tolerant and allowing people to express those views and opinions in a more appropriate way will mean individuals are less likely to take a violent and extremist approach.



For more information

If you have any concerns about radicalisation and extremism or anything related to fundamental British values, you can contact t2's safeguarding team via safeguarding@t2group.co.uk for help and support.

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