

## UTC Plymouth British Values Statement



At UTC we take great pride in the broad range of opportunities we offer our students both within the curriculum and beyond. We believe in respect and tolerance for all individual and groups, so they learn without prejudice. It is our aim to deliver the highest quality education to all our students in a dynamic Britain where success is not limited by faith, race, gender, sexuality or wealth. It is essential that we meet the requirements set out in section 78 of the Education Act 2002 and promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development our students. At UTC promotion of the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs takes place in a wide range of opportunities and experiences.

### Democracy

Democracy can be seen as a state of society characterised by equality of rights and privileges. It can also refer to our nation's electoral systems. At UTC Plymouth we promote the importance of democracy through such things as:

- The election of our college council members.
- Students have the chance to vote each week on a nationwide voting platform called Votes for Schools. Current affairs are discussed and debated all week which culminate in a vote. Results are displayed in school for students to view.
- Students are given the opportunity to make choices both within lessons and the curriculum.
- Students are encouraged to challenge their own views and the views of others.
- The ethos of the college of one of promoting equality for all.
- Year 12 and 13 students are taught about British democracy through Diversity and Debate lessons, which follows a citizenship-based scheme of work. The planning of debates and carrying out of debates feature regularly in these lessons.
- Students have the opportunity to get involved in Young Parliament which supports them in the understanding of parliamentary systems.
- Young Parliament Week will be introduced to the year 12/13 groups this year so that they can take part in a long-term project and further enhance their understanding.

### The rule of law

All people and institutions are subject to and accountable to law that is fairly applied and enforced. At UTC Plymouth we promote the importance of the rule of law through such things as:

- School has its Behaviour for Learning policy that has been developed in consultation with our students. Students understand and support the reward system that was created to help them understand consequences of actions and links into our 'Golden Time' reward system.

- The school invites community police in to discuss local issues and issues affecting our students directly.
- Students participate in the Mock Trial event that takes place annually, most recently students voted on Brexit and we spent time debating the topical issues surrounding leaving the E.U.
- Drugs and Alcohol education takes place through PSE and the pastoral curriculum. Also through workshops provided by external agencies.
- Close working relationships with the local Police as part of our pastoral care.
- Close working relationships with the Royal Navy as part of our college links.
- All year 12 students attend a Learn2Live Roadshow about road safety with hard-hitting messages which features guest speakers from the ambulance, police and fire service and family members that have lost loved ones.

### **Individual Liberty**

Individual liberty suggests the free exercise of rights generally seen as outside Government control. At UTC Plymouth we promote the importance of individual liberty through such things as:

- The students feel safe and secure and confident in sharing their views to keep themselves and other safe.
- PSE, Votes for Schools and Diversity and Debate lessons allow students to learn about the importance of being free to make your own choices.
- Students are actively encouraged to discuss and have dialogue about their rights and responsibilities in Britain today.
- Students are encouraged to discuss their points of view around how the college could be improved via Meet the Principal days and post- opinion survey results.

### **Mutual respect**

The proper regard for an individual's dignity, which is reciprocated. At UTC Plymouth, we promote the importance of mutual respect through such things as:

- There is a strong ethos within the College – promoting personal identity, anti-bullying, relationships (inc. consent), emotional health, gender and career stereotypes, sexism, racism, homophobia, GRT etc...
- Behaviour in lesson is in the majority of lessons is good with excellent teacher – students relationships built on trust and mutual respect.
- Students are used to interviewing new staff as part of a student panel and support at UTC Open Evening, promoting the college to parents and potential students.
- We carry out monthly Student Leadership Team meetings for the students to discuss the needs of the students and college and strategies to improve UTC.
- Students have weekly whole-school assemblies where weekly themes are promoted by either teachers, students or external guest speakers.

- We promote the importance of tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs through such things as: Diversity and Debate (KS5) and PSE taught to all current year 10. Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural themes are promoted within lessons across the curriculum.
- Every year we take part in an activity based around the Holocaust Memorial day so that students can explore this topic.
- Students are encouraged to talk about their emotions and seek help with such services on offer as Young Devon face to face counselling and Kooth, an online service.
- Every week, the weekly theme is explored on a deeper level by year 10 groups, who discuss and debate the theme.