

St Martin in the Fields High School for Girls

PROMOTING BRITISH VALUES AND PREPARING OUR STUDENTS FOR LIFE IN MODERN BRITAIN



Democracy

The principle of democracy is consistently being reinforced at St Martin's, with democratic processes being used for important decisions within the school community, for instance, elections being held for Head Girl and Prefects positions, Form Captains.

We hold mock elections, most recently for Brexit. The principle of democracy is also explored through the curriculum, for example in the History and Religious Studies as well as in form time and assemblies.

Student voice is significant in regards to life at St Martin's. Our student elected school council plays a strong role in our school. We know that the formation of the school council and the active participation of our students will sow the seeds for a more sophisticated understanding of democracy in the future.

The rule of law

Our students will encounter rules and laws throughout their entire lives. We want our students to understand that whether these laws govern the class, the school, the neighbourhood or the country, they are set for good reasons and must be adhered to.

This understanding of the importance of rules is consistently reinforced through assemblies and our curriculum. The involvement of our students in the creation of the school rules helps them to understand the reasons behind the rules and the consequences if they are broken.

Individual liberty

We invest a great deal of time in creating a positive culture in our school, so that students are in a safe environment where choices and freedoms are encouraged. At St Martin's students are actively encouraged to make independent choices, with the knowledge that they can do this within a safe, secure and supportive culture. Staff at St Martin's educate and provide boundaries for students to make informed choices, through an empowering education.

Students are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised on how to exercise these safely, for example through e-safety and Tutor time activities and through student council and the prefect system.

St Martin's has a robust anti-bullying culture and has in place a comprehensive Behaviour for Learning Policy. We are in the process to introducing a peer mediating programme where Peer mediators will be trained and be able to support younger students in the school. We believe that valuing choice and freedom in daily school life will foster a value for individual liberty as the students embark upon their adult lives.

Mutual Respect

Respect is a strong part of St Martin's and is part of our ethos vision and Christian Values. Students learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect and this is reiterated through its teaching and learning environments.

Mutual respect is at the core of our school life and demonstrated through our distinctive Christian Values. Students learn to treat each other and staff with great respect. This is evident when walking around the school and in the classrooms. Our school motto is "With Love and Learning", students respect and value education and being educated and this is evident and expressed by visitors to the school.

Mutual respect is embraced throughout the curriculum by providing the opportunity for students to express their views in a safe environment.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

This is achieved through equipping students with the ability to understand their place in a culturally diverse school and society and by giving the opportunities to experience such diversity within the school community. Students benefit from a number of international visitors, speakers from other continents and cultures. Additionally, students are actively encouraged to share their faith and beliefs within the school and celebrate festivities throughout the calendar year alongside our Anglican faith. We observe Founders Day, St Martin's Day and other festivals on the Christian Calendar by having a church service. Governance includes faith representation from the Church of England.

At St Martin's we strongly believe that tolerance is gained through knowledge and understanding. Through our curriculum and the routines of our daily school life, we strive to demonstrate tolerance and help students to become knowledgeable and understanding through participation. The Religious Studies curriculum, which is compulsory for all students up to the end of KS4, provides a broad and balanced education on a range of faiths, religions and cultures.

Through assemblies and tutor time we embrace tolerance through our values and the themes throughout the year.

St Martin's strives endlessly to ensure that our students leave with the strongest foundation of values upon which to build a successful life and a successful contribution to our Society.