



British Values

British values underpin what it is to be a citizen living and working in a modern, diverse society. They are beliefs that we as a nation hold in high regard.

Let's take a look at the 4 fundamental British Values in more detail and how they are promoted and reinforced at the University of Bolton.

Democracy

Democracy means to be ruled by the people, so everyone of meeting the eligibility criteria can vote on who they wish to run the country. It means we live within a culture built on freedom and equality, in which all members of society are aware of their individual rights and responsibilities. Democracy allows you to have and share your own opinions in a respectful manner and allows freedom of choice.

The Rule of Law

The rule of law ensures that we feel safe in the society we live in with rules that all citizens are legally obliged to live by. Law reflect the needs of society. Recognition of the consequences of acting unlawfully.

Individual Liberty

Individual liberty allows individuals the freedom to be who they want to be. Individual liberty allows society to embrace diversity without discrimination. Individual liberties are underpinned and protected under law. All members of society are accountable for their actions or equally their inactions.

Mutual Respect and Tolerance

Mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

As a diverse society, we should be tolerant of different faiths, beliefs and cultures that shape the country we live in. It is unacceptable to dismiss the opinions of others from different faiths or no faith - we should embrace diversity.

Now let's look at how the 4 fundamental British Values are promoted and reinforced at the University of Bolton.

Democracy

- The Student's Union President and a Post Graduate Student are elected for the Board of Governors
- Course Reps are elected by their cohort to represent the views of their fellow students
- The Course Rep Charter ensures staff and students adhere to the role and the student voice is listened to at all levels
- The student voice is listened to, valued and acted upon
- Students learn about the freedom of speech

Rule of Law

- Rules and expectations make sure the University is a safe environment for all members
- One such expectation is that the University of Bolton is required to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism"
- The Prevent Duty helps to protect the fundamental British Values from terrorism
- Students learn about laws, authorities and the importance of living in a democratic society
- The University of Bolton work closely with the Community Police Team
- Students learn about fairness and justice

Individual Liberty

- The University of Bolton is “passionate in their pursuit of diversity”
- There is a strong anti-bullying culture
- Self-esteem and confidence are promoted across the University
- Students can learn about different identities and explore personal beliefs
- Multi-faith chaplaincy that supports students of all faiths and those of no beliefs

Mutual Respect and Tolerance

- University of Bolton’s Bolton’s Student’s Union work have worked with students to develop a pledge. This pledge sets out how other students should be treated
- The Equality Act (2010) helps to underpin policies at the University, such as the Equal Opportunities Policy. This Act helps to protect people from discrimination because of a protected characteristic, which we all have
- Protected Characteristics include: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation
- The University will always challenge prejudice or discriminatory behaviour.
- The University discusses and appreciates the difference between people, faith, origin, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, young carers and disability
- Tolerance and respect for people of different regions and cultural backgrounds are promoted

In Summary

The fundamental British Values underpin what it is to be a citizen in a modern and diverse Great Britain. The University of Bolton wish to ensure all our members understand the importance of these values and can apply them to create an environment free from discrimination and intolerance.

For further information on British Values and the legislation that helps to underpin what students must be taught, take a look at the Further Reading section or speak to the Student's Union on 01204 900 850 or email: info@boltonsu.com

Don't forget to take a look at the LEAP Online sections on 'Prevent' and 'Safeguarding'.

Access LEAP Online at: www.bolton.ac.uk/leaponline