



Hackney New School British Values Statement

Hackney New School (HNS) is a growing school located in the heart of the community in Hackney. Hackney reflects the multi-cultural, multi-faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom. HNS understands the vital role it plays 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.

Our Core Vision is based on the principles of Academic Excellence, Self-belief, Intellectual Curiosity and Responsibility. Our Core Beliefs underpin this vision:-

- Remain curious
- Use precedents, but use them with care
- Use your judgment
- Listen and watch carefully
- Know how to use data and evidence
- Learn when to use and control your emotions
- Almost everything can be done better
- Be generous in your arguments with others
- Combine opinions with knowledge
- Knowledge means independence

These beliefs are a part of life at HNS and form a basis for tolerance and mutual respect.

Hackney New School accepts admissions from all entitled to an education under British law, including pupils of all faiths or none. The school's equal opportunities policy guarantees that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status.

The Government emphasises that schools are required to teach key 'British Values' in their curriculum which it defines as representing the values of:

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect
- tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

Our curriculum prepares our students for life in British Society; this includes developing the understanding and use of money, effective reading and writing skills, academic collaboration and discussion of ideas ideas

and philosophical concepts

Curriculum examples:

Core Curriculum Statement

KS3 “The Core” curriculum explores critical philosophical issues and questions. All students are taking lessons in the “The Core” to develop their critical enquiry skills through the examination of key questions arising in scientific enquiry, philosophy, history, literature, religion and social issues. It is delivered through a variety of interactive, engaging lessons with full students participation. Students are encouraged to question, consider and reflect on their own beliefs and those of others through debate and discussion accompanied by written tasks and project-based learning assessments. Lessons encourage independent thought and debate with the aim of introducing students to the rich history of Western and non-Western ideas. .

Topics throughout KS3 build student knowledge so that pupils are equipped with the knowledge and skills to commence Religion and Ethics at GCSE. The course establishes cross-curricular links with the Citizenship, Religion and PHSE programmes.

Core topics include:

- General election - mock election organised in school
- Parliament
- Role of MPs
- Coalition government
- Prejudice and Equality

PSHE topics include:

- Safe relationships
- Emotional wellbeing
- Recognise and identify bullying
- Financial capability
- Economic wellbeing: pensions, tax, running a business, entrepreneurship
- The Economy
- Laws

Students are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety policy and PSHE work on keeping myself safe.

English topics include:

- Plays of Shakespeare relevant to the year group
- British authors such as Robert Swindells - Stone Cold, as part of a unit dedicated to the buildings, poems and people of London

- British playwrights such as Willy Russell - Our Day Out

Music topics include:

- Working together to compose and perform, working with the Royal College of Music and range of UK orchestras
- Fanfare composition for Royal Opera House

History topics include:

- Medieval Britain
- Roman Britain
- Tudors and Stuarts
- The English Civil War of the 17th century
- World Wars I and II
- Industrial Revolution

Geography topics include:

- Town and City Development
- UK Energy Use
- Fossil fuel use and consequences
- Poverty, tourism in the UK

Physical Education topics include:

- Diet and healthy living throughout the UK
- Team building
- Rules, sportsmanship and etiquette

Our assemblies uphold traditional values of empathy, respect and tolerance and these are reflected in the Core Values of Hackney New School : Academic Excellence, Intellectual Curiosity, Self Belief and Responsibility. Speakers and organisations from all areas of society speak in assembly and run workshops. These include representatives of British universities, local businesses, local religious leaders, local artists and musicians, all of whom reinforce these traditional values.

HNS promotes democratic processes through the election of school council members. This fosters the concept of freedom of speech and group action to address need and concerns.

The emphasis Hackney New School places on community work was recognised by The Mayor of London awarding the school the 2016 London Schools Award for Community Work.

The integral part emotional wellbeing plays in our school community was recognised by Place2Be with the school being awarded the 2016 national award for Wellbeing in Secondary Schools.

Lesley Falconer

Executive Headteacher