

ITALIA CONTI

Promoting British Values Policy

Approval and Review:

This review approved by the Principal and SLT		17 th February 2022
Checked by	Head of Quality Assurance	6 th September 2020
Review date:		31 st August 2023

This policy will be reviewed and approved annually by the Senior Leadership Team.

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1) Overview

The Department of Education's advice to schools reinforces the need "to promote the basic British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs" (Departmental Advice for Schools – Promoting Fundamental British Values as Part of the 'Strengthened Guidance on Improving the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development of Pupils' (SMSC) in schools (UK Government, 2014)

Italia Conti supports the values of democracy, rules of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs and these are embedded within our curriculum and ethos. These values are found in our values which include respect, kindness, honesty, hard work, cooperation, fairness, confidence, tolerance, politeness, and responsibility. These values are not unique to Britain and are shared by many people in the world and are represented by the diverse families and student cohort of Italia Conti.

Italia Conti values the diverse ethnic backgrounds of all our students, staff, and their families. We encourage our students to be tolerant and respectful towards others, and to embrace the differences in our community and the wider world.

2) Promoting British Values at Italia Conti

At Italia Conti, British Values are reinforced regularly in the following ways:

2.1 Democracy

Students have the opportunity to have their voices heard through the Student Rep system, Tutorials and Year group sessions.

2.2 Student Reps

Student engagement, in line with the Quality Code expectation is a key priority area for Italia Conti, and considerable attention is paid to this area. Central to this process is the establishing of Student Reps who form the main link between the faculty and the student body.

Student Course Representatives (Reps) are elected by the student groups. Course Rep Meetings take place at least once per term: these provide an ongoing forum for the student perspective to be shared and discussed across the year groups. These meetings allow discussion with members of the faculty to be engaged with and allows information to be either passed upwards to the Course Boards, or back to the wider student body.

Cross College Site Ambassadors' meetings

These fortnightly meetings take place with a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and provide a forum for Site Ambassadors to share non-course related discussion with other students across the college and in different courses. They also provide a direct channel to the SLT. Site Ambassadors for each course are nominated by the Course Leaders.

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In addition, students have the opportunity to have their voices heard through Italia Conti Student Voices activities, including the Course Committee meetings and Year group meetings. There are also regular student surveys including termly module/ unit surveys, as well as the Higher Education National Student Survey (NSS) at the end of the course which allows the student experience at Italia Conti to be compared with other institutions.

Student Committees

Each course area operates a student and staff EDI (Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee) which meets regularly.

2.3 The Rule of Law

The importance of Laws, whether they are those that govern the class, the college, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout the working day. This promotes a healthy and safe working environment which promotes mutual respect, personal responsibility, and a professional outlook. Student conduct is often considered as part of Year Group meetings where the purpose, application, effectiveness, and value of college rules can be discussed.

2.4 Individual Liberty

Within Italia Conti, students are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. Students are encouraged to know, understand, and exercise their rights and personal freedoms, and benefit from a range of contextual classes, tutorials, student committees and guest workshops and visiting speakers which often serve to highlight their awareness of issues which may affect individual liberty and expression, such as Transgender issues, or the rights of minority groups.

2.5 Mutual Respect

The ethos at Italia Conti emphasises respect for others. This is reiterated through our practice and through our policies. We have a values-led approach to behaviour management. “Respect” is a core value at Italia Conti. This is embedded throughout the curriculum. Staff at Italia Conti actively promote courtesy and good manners towards all.

2.6 Tolerance of those with Different Faiths and Beliefs

The Italia Conti community embraces people from a wide range of backgrounds, and our Access and Widening Participation scheme seeks to encourage students who might never have considered studying for a career in the performing arts with us. We aim to promote the understanding and appreciation of different faiths and cultures both within our college and the wider world.

Italia Conti actively monitors and tackles all forms of bullying and harassment (this includes cyber-bullying, prejudice-based bullying related to appearance, SEND, sex, race, religion and belief, disability, sexual orientation, trans gender or gender reassignment).

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At Italia Conti we will actively challenge students, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including "extremist" views. We actively encourage our students to acquire an understanding of, and respect for their own and other cultures and ways of life, including through curriculum content. The Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committees further encourage and promote awareness of mutual respect and diversity.

3) Policy Links

This policy is provided alongside

- *Extremism and Anti Radicalisation Policy*
- *Safeguarding Policy*
- Safeguarding (Prevent)
- Widening Access and Participation Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy

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