

# Ivel Valley School

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## Ivel Valley statement on political impartiality in schools

In February 2022, the Department for Education (DfE) released guidance for teachers on political impartiality in schools. The full guidance can be read here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/political-impartiality-in-schools/political-impartiality-in-schools>. It covers a broad range of areas, and uses scenarios to answer questions.

This statement identifies key elements of this guidance that we feel are most pertinent for Ivel Valley.

**When considering impartiality, our key aim is to equip our pupils with the tools to question and explore different viewpoints, and make their own decisions.**

We must not promote partisan political views, i.e. encouraging pupils to support one-sided views held by a political party, campaign or charity. We can explore different views on political issues – this is important within a broad and balanced curriculum – but they must be presented in a clear, balanced and factual way, appropriate for our pupils' individual SEND.

Whilst we must aim to present **balanced views**, we do not need to teach about unsubstantiated theories and conspiracies, or present dangerous and discriminatory views without challenging them. **We must be clear that discrimination, intolerance and prejudice has no place in our society.**

We must proactively teach the **fundamental British values**: democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. We teach these in ways that are meaningful to our pupils; these are shared principles that underpin our society and must be reinforced by schools.

*This advice is based on:*

*Section 406 and Section 407 of the Education Act 1996  
Equality Act 2010 (including the Public Sector Equality Duty for state-funded schools)  
Human Rights Act 1998  
Prevent duty*

