

**LAINE**  
THEATRE ARTS

UNIVERSAL VALUES  
STATEMENT  
2023

## UNIVERSAL VALUES STATEMENT

At Laine Theatre Arts, we understand the responsibility we have to ensure that groups and individuals within the College community are safe from intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to unduly influence them. We take pride in nurturing a staff and student body which embraces excellence, creativity, and personal growth.

This statement outlines the universal values that we seek to actively promote through our commitment to ensure equal opportunities for all applicants and students and our objective to recruit a student body that is reflective of the wider communities in which our colleges are located. We believe that such a diverse student body provides for a more creative and dynamic community, and this is in line with the College's ethos and mission.

Laine Theatre Arts seeks to promote these universal values and to secure positive outcomes for students with regards to their personal, social, and emotional wellbeing. The values that we seek to actively promote, all of which underpin the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, are listed below, along with some examples of how we seek to promote them.

### Democracy

At Laine Theatre Arts we recognise the importance of openness and transparency in order to foster creative and collaborative ways of working. We aim to inspire a culture of teamwork and collective responsibility in everything we do, encouraging students to collaborate across disciplines and personal backgrounds to develop not only their artistic abilities, but also essential life skills like communication, adaptability, and problem-solving.

We will:

- o Encourage students to the election of Student Representatives who, in turn, are encouraged to engage with various forums and committees, through which they can have a say in shaping and enhancing our curriculum, services, policies and procedures.
- o Encourage students to a culture of openness and honesty, and ensure students are aware of their right to have a say in all matters affecting their student life.

### Individual Liberty

We believe in empowering our students to take ownership of their own journeys and seek to provide a supportive environment that nurtures self-confidence, resilience, and a strong work ethic. We aim to equip our students with the tools they need to succeed, not just on the stage, but in every facet of their lives and pledge to nurture the abilities of our students to approach new challenges and opportunities with self-knowledge, healthy boundaries, and a sense of personal accountability.

We will:

- o Create opportunities for students to take on responsibility within the college through becoming Student Representatives, or members of the Student Society
- o Encourage students to make their own choices, know their rights and take responsibility for their own behaviour.

## **Mutual Respect**

Respect is the cornerstone of the Laine community. We recognise the dignity and worth of every individual, and endeavour to help all students to recognise their gifts and grow to their fullest potential. We aim to foster an environment where differing perspectives are valued, creating a space for open dialogue, empathy, and understanding.

We will:

- o Encourage students to participate in debates and discussions within lessons and develop their arguments, ensuring that those with differing opinions are given equal opportunity of expression.
- o Design studio and assessment tasks that promote group work, sharing and collaboration.

## **The Rule of Law**

At Laine Theatre Arts we view integrity as the foundation of our relationships, both within the Laine community and with the broader world. We consider the exercise of self-discipline in response to the rules and regulations set by the College key to maintaining those relationships; upholding honesty, professionalism and accountability in all our endeavours. Our commitment to integrity and respect for the rule of the law ensures that our graduates are not only talented performers but also responsible and trustworthy individuals.

We will:

- o Ensure that students are aware of our expectations of them as stated in our Student Charter.
- o Ensure that students understand the potential consequences of unacceptable behaviour, as outlined in our Student Code of Conduct, and uphold the consistent application thereof.

## **Tolerance**

We believe in creating a community where all are included, and where people are caring and considerate in their words and actions. Creativity is the heartbeat of our institution, and we are committed to providing a safe environment in which staff and students are able to celebrate the unique perspectives of others, and learn from lived experiences outside of their own. We encourage our students to explore new ideas, take artistic risks, and challenge conventions, allowing their unique voices to flourish in a nurturing and non-judgemental environment.

We will:

- o Foster a culture of inclusivity, where everyone feels accepted and students are encouraged to engage with the wider community.
- o Encourage students to better awareness among the student body through the promotion of our policies on Bullying & Harassment and Sexual Misconduct.

Policy reviewed by Senior Management Committee. Date of next review: September 2027.