The Children’s Workshop

Fundamental British Values in the Early Years

The fundamental British values of **democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance** for those with different faiths and beliefs are already implicitly embedded in the Early Years Foundation Stage and are interwoven throughout our curriculum.

*The Counter Terrorism and Security Act also places a duty on early years providers “to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism” (the Prevent duty).*

**Democracy: making decisions together**

As part of the focus on self-confidence and self-awareness as cited in Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED): We encourage the children to see their role in the ‘bigger picture’ supporting their understanding of themselves as citizens and as part of a Pre-School, local and wider community.

- We support the decisions that children make and provide activities that involve, sharing and collaboration. Lots of our activities promote turn taking and negotiating skills, skills that are essential if we want to get on in the adult world.
- Children are given opportunities to develop enquiring minds in an atmosphere where questions are valued.
- We support children in working and learning together encouraging and facilitating the children to lead their learning. The staff support the children to understand their views count and how it is okay if someone’s opinions may not match their own.
- We encourage the children to value each other’s views and values about their feelings e.g. when they do or do not need help. When appropriate, we demonstrate democracy in action, for example, children voting on which toys they would like out.

**Rule of law: understanding rules matter as cited in Personal Social and Emotional development**

As part of the focus on managing feelings and behaviour:

- We ensure that children understand their own and others’ behaviour and its consequences, and learn to distinguish right from wrong as supported.
- We negotiate rules and the codes of behaviour with the children using our ‘Golden Rules’

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**To take turns and try to share.**

**To listen to each other.**

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Fundamental British Values in the Early Years. November 2018
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Individual liberty: freedom for all

As part of the focus on self-confidence & self-awareness and people & communities as cited in Personal Social and Emotional development and Understanding the World: Children should develop a positive sense of themselves.

- We provide opportunities for children to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and increase their confidence in their own abilities through our ethos in valuing the Characteristics of Effective Learning – Playing and Exploring, Active Learning and Creating and Thinking Critically.
- We support children to develop a positive sense of self by ensuring they gain a sense of achievement. We give children opportunities to take on small responsibilities e.g. helping to do special jobs.
- We talk about different personal qualities and positive behaviours.
- Every time we share a book we are giving children the time and space to explore feelings and self-awareness.
- The children are encouraged to be individuals, challenge their learning, take risks and develop confidence in their own abilities, for example through exploring our outdoor space, woodworking, mixing colours and making potions, testing their ideas and asking questions to find out more.
- We allow children to explore the language of feelings and responsibility, reflect on their differences and understand we are free to have different opinions.

Mutual respect and tolerance

As part of the focus on People and Communities, Managing Feelings and Behaviour and Making Relationships as cited in Personal Social and Emotional Development and Understanding the World: We work to create an ethos of inclusivity and tolerance where views, faiths, cultures and races are valued and children are engaged with the wider community. We promote an ethos of mutual respect and we help children learn to treat others as they want to be treated.

- Our planning and practice is geared to supporting children to acquire an appreciation and tolerance of and respect for their own and other cultures; know about similarities and differences between themselves and others and among families, faiths, communities, cultures and traditions and to share and discuss practices, celebrations and experiences.
- We encourage and explain the importance of tolerant behaviours such as sharing and respecting other’s opinions.
- We promote diverse attitudes and challenge stereotypes, for example, sharing stories that reflect and value the diversity of children’s experiences and providing resources and activities that challenge gender, cultural and racial stereotyping.
We support the children to understand their role in being a citizen of their local community through providing valuable and relevant opportunities for children to make links with the people in the local environment who influence their lives.

**Tolerance of those with different Faiths and Beliefs**

We aim to support the children to understand different faiths and beliefs through supporting community links and developing their knowledge of how they are part of a local community and the wider world. We provide relevant and developmentally appropriate opportunities to enhance children’s understanding of different faiths and beliefs through learning opportunities that are accessible to young children. We actively encourage parents/carers to participate and support us in creating local and world wide links to encourage the children to develop an understanding of the differing cultures, faiths and beliefs around them and support them in being not only tolerant but interested in others; exploring how they differ or are dissimilar to themselves.

**As a team we will:**

- Consistently and actively promote tolerance of other faiths, cultures and races
- Challenge gender stereotypes, including routine segregation of girls and boys
- Work to engage children and families with the wider community
- Challenge behaviours (whether of staff, children or parents) that are not in line with the Fundamental British Values of Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance for those with different faiths, beliefs and lifestyle choices