

WOLDINGHAM NURSERY CLASS

BRITISH VALUES POLICY

The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. The fundamental British Values of Democracy, Rule Of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect And Tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs are implicitly embedded in the 2025 Early Years Foundation Stage.

We also have a duty “to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism” (the Prevent duty). At Woldingham Nursery Class these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy: making decisions together

Democracy can be seen in action at our nursery in many ways.

As part of the focus on self-confidence and self-awareness, staff encourage children to see their role in the bigger picture. We encourage children to know that their personal views are important. At the same time ensuring that they accept other people’s personal views and values.

In groups and through restorative practice the children talk about their feelings, for example when they do or do not need help. When appropriate, we support the children to demonstrate democracy in action. For example, the children share their opinions and vote (by a show of hands), when deciding the theme of their role-play area.

Staff support the decisions that children make and provide activities that involve turn-taking, sharing and collaboration. Children are given opportunities to develop enquiring minds in an atmosphere where questions are valued.

The Rule of Law - understanding rules matter

As part of the focus on managing feelings and behaviour, staff support, teach and ensure that children understand that behaviour has both positive and negative consequences and outcomes. Children are taught to distinguish right from wrong.

Staff collaborate with children to create classroom rules and the codes of behaviour. For example, the children and staff agree on rules for tidying up. The staff work with the children so that they understand the rules and that these are applied fairly to everyone.

The importance of rules and laws are regularly reinforced throughout the day. The children are taught to value rules and the reason why they exist. The children are taught that rules and laws are used to govern and protect us. They are taught that rules and laws bring with them personal responsibility, as well as personal consequences when rules are broken. This approach is supported by visits from authorities such as the local police and fire service to reinforce this message.

Individual liberty: freedom for all

Individual liberty is part of our focus on self-confidence and self-awareness; people and communities as cited in Personal Social and Emotional development and Understanding the World.

Within nursery, children are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a nursery, we educate and provide boundaries for young children to make choices safely. This is encouraged through provision of a safe environment and empowering

education. Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms. Staff advise the children how to exercise their personal rights safely. For example, this takes place through 'stay safe' group activities. Whether it is through choice or challenge, what area of learning they choose to learn within, children are given the freedom to make choices.

Children develop a positive sense of themselves. Staff provide opportunities for children to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and increase their confidence in their own abilities. For example, allowing children to take risks on an obstacle course, mixing colours, talking about their experiences and learning.

Staff encourage a range of experiences that allow children to explore the language of feelings and responsibility, reflect on their differences and understand we are free to have different opinions. For example, in small groups they discuss what they feel about transferring into Reception Class.

Mutual respect and tolerance: treat others as you want to be treated

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 ensure that we promote an ethos of inclusivity and tolerance. In particular, where views, faiths, cultures and races are valued and children are engaged with the wider community.

Children acquire a tolerance and appreciate/respect their own and other cultures. This takes place through a range of activities and experiences. They learn about similarities and differences between themselves and others and among families, faiths, communities, cultures and traditions and share and discuss practices, celebrations and experiences.

Staff encourage and explain the importance of tolerant behaviours such as sharing and respecting other's opinions.

Staff promote diverse attitudes and challenge stereotypes. For example, sharing stories that reflect and value the diversity of children's experiences, providing resources and activities that challenge gender, cultural and racial stereotyping.

Part of our nursery ethos and behaviour policy revolves around Core Values such as 'Respect'. The children take part in discussions related to what this means and how it is shown. This is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our behaviour policy.

Tolerance of those of Different Cultures, Faiths and Beliefs

This is achieved through enhancing the children's understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and providing them with the opportunity to experience such diversity. The nursery has close links with the community and we have several experience days, which allow the children to enjoy learning about similarities and differences in our cultures. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within the nursery.