

British Values

***British values* are defined as democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs. We actively promote inclusion, equality of opportunity, the valuing of diversity and British values.**

We teach children to think critically and become independent learners, which is fundamental to the Characteristics of Effective Learning and Teaching embedded in the EYFS. Britain has undergone rapid economic and social change in the last few decades and we live in an increasingly diverse society. We teach our children that it is possible to live together peacefully, where each of them is a valuable part of our multicultural world.

We recognise that it is important to work closely with parents and carers – to let them know that we will be teaching their children British values as part of our day-to-day curriculum. Indeed, the Early Years Foundation Stage lays down guidelines as to how the nursery should encourage British values and be aware of them either here or at home.

Procedures

How we embed British values in our daily practice, through Personal, Social and Emotional Development and Understanding the World

- ***Democracy***, or making decisions together (PSED)
 - As part of the focus on self-confidence and self-awareness, practitioners encourage children to see their role in the bigger picture, encouraging them to know that their views count, to value each other's views and values, and talk about their feelings, for example, recognising when they do or do not need help.
 - Practitioners 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.
- ***Rule of law***, or understanding that rules matter (PSED)
 - Practitioners ensure that children understand their own and others' behaviour and its consequence.
 - Practitioners collaborate with children to create rules and the codes of behaviour, for example, the rules about tidying up, and ensure that all children understand rules apply to everyone.

- **Individual liberty, or freedom for all** (PSED & UW)
 - Children should 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 through allowing children to take risks on an obstacle course, mixing colours, talking about their experiences and learning, and doing things for themselves.
 - Practitioners 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 discussing in a small group what they feel about transferring into Reception Class.
- **Mutual respect and tolerance, or treating others as you want to be treated** ((PSED & UW)
 - Practitioners create an ethos of inclusivity and tolerance where views, faiths, cultures and races are valued and children are engaged with the wider community.
 - Children should acquire tolerance, appreciation 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.
 - Practitioners encourage and explain the importance of tolerant behaviours, such as sharing and respecting other's opinions.
 - Practitioners 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 or racial stereotyping.
- **At Wood St Nursery it is not acceptable to:**
 - actively promote intolerance of other faiths, cultures and races
 - fail to challenge gender stereotypes and routinely segregate girls and boys
 - isolate children from their wider community
 - fail to 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 and beliefs.