

West Green Playgroup



Teaching British Values at West Green Playgroup

Policy Statement

From September 2015 the new Ofsted Common Inspection Framework includes a section on promoting fundamental British values across all levels of education. For early years settings this means that Ofsted will be inspecting Early years providers based on how well they promote British values. Ofsted inspectors will be required to make a judgement on how well we deliver a curriculum which includes teaching children about Britain and British values, and we will need to be able to demonstrate that these values are at the heart of our setting and demonstrated through our practice.

The fundamental British values of

- **Democracy**
- **Rule of law**
- **Individual liberty**
- **Mutual respect**
- **Tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs**

These values are already embedded in the 2014 Early Years Foundation stage guidance and therefore we are already promoting British values daily in our setting. Promoting British values is about providing a wide range of resources and activities that reflect value the diversity of children's experiences and actively challenge gender, cultural and racial stereotyping. Our setting needs to help children gain an understanding of people, families, and communities beyond their immediate experiences.

Regardless of the children's backgrounds, it is our responsibility to ensure the children have respect for all by supporting children to gain a positive sense of themselves. This will help them to speak up, be heard and have their opinions valued. They also need to begin to understand that their way of life maybe different to others but that everyone should be valued and that it is possible for everyone to live together peacefully, each person being part of our multicultural world. By teaching children these British values from a young age, it will build a firm foundation for them to grow into well rounded adults and helps develop an accepting and more tolerant society.

It is important to remember that British values are already part of what we do within our setting and are promoted within the EYFS particularly in Personal, Social and Emotional development (PSED) and Understanding the World (UW). We will also be able to evidence our settings approach to British values through our Inclusion policy, Positive behaviour policy and Valuing diversity and promoting equality policy.

To help demonstrate what all of this means in practice we have devised the following examples based on the "Statutory Guidance", required in PSED and Understanding the World, linked to the relevant "early learning goals" for each of the values. We hope these will be helpful to reinforce that "Fundamental British Values" are alive in our setting.

Democracy: making decisions together

As part of the focus in PSED on promoting self-confidence and self-awareness.

- We encourage children to see their role in the larger community
- ☐ To value their own and each other's views

- To talk about their personal feelings
- To have a positive sense of their own identity and culture

Practice

- All children are encouraged to share their views/opinions regardless of their age/stages of development. Staff are in tune with children's method of communication; verbal and non-verbal, this enables staff to support each child's participation in decision making.
- Give children, staff, and parents a voice and respect their views and ideas.
- Have a clear 'Positive Behaviour Policy' which encourages and supports all to contribute, cooperate and participate, considering the views of others.
- When interacting with children to support this area of development; use words, objects, photographs, books, touch, cues, eye pointing and body language.
- Include children's own comments and parents' comments in planning and learning journeys.

Rule of law: understanding that rules matter

As part of the focus in PSED on managing feelings and behaviour.

- We ensure that children understand their own and others behaviour and its consequences.
- Support children to distinguish right from wrong.
- Collaborate with children to create the rules and codes of behaviour.

Practice

- The rules, boundaries and ethos at West Green Playgroup should be shared and understood by children, parents, visitors and clearly visible through staff interaction.
- Staff have a clear and consistent approach to behaviour management.
- These expectations support children and parents to understand the value and reasons behind our teaching and we encourage parents to use the same approach to behaviour management at home.
- Encourage children as 'helpers' and 'safety police' to embed the reasons and consequences of their actions on themselves, their peers and the environment.

Individual liberty: freedom for all

As part of the focus in PSED on self-confidence and self-awareness; and on people and communities in Understanding the World.

- We provide opportunities for children to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and increase their confidence in their own abilities.
- Encourage a range of activities that allow children to explore the language of feelings and responsibility, reflect on their differences and understand they are free to have different opinions from those around them.

Practice

- We encourage and support children to make safe choices, allow them to take risks in a safe, well planned, and supervised environment.
- Encourage children to prepare fruit and independently help themselves to snack and drinks. Enable children to become helpers to develop self-esteem and self-confidence, using specific praise and positive language to increase confidence. Encourage independence and self-help skill through our robust key person system.
- Use photos and children's comments/views to highlight achievements, promoting the process rather than the result.
- Talk about feelings and emotions and how they make us, and others feel.
- Allow children to make choices by considering the environment, furniture and resources and make changes accordingly.

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

As part of the focus in PSED on self-confidence and self-awareness; and on people and communities in Understanding the World

- We create an ethos of inclusivity and tolerance where views, faiths, cultures and races are valued, and children are engaged in the wider community.
- Develop a tolerance and appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures.
- Explain and encourage the importance of tolerant behaviours such as sharing and respecting others' opinions.
- Promote diverse attitudes and challenge stereotypes.
- We have family lunch at the end of every term, where families are encouraged to bring in dish from their own culture to share with each other.

Practice

- Provide resources and activities that challenge gender, cultural and racial stereotyping such as celebrating world festivals and events. Plan activities that promote cultures and religions from around the world.
- Provide home corner resources such as dolls, small world figures, dressing up clothes that allow children to experiment and celebrate gender, diversity and represent a wide range of cultures.
- Provide a wide range of books that promote diversity.