



## **Fundamental British Values Policy**

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 2014 Early Years Foundation Stage document. This was followed by the Prevent duty which came into effect in July 2015. Separately, the Counter Terrorism and Security Act also places a duty on schools and early years providers “to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism” (the Prevent duty).

To help demonstrate what this means in practice in our nursery school, we have collected the following examples based on what is in the statutory guidance. They are not an exhaustive list, but aim to steer our practice and provide a strong foundation on which to build.

**Democracy:** making decisions together as part of the focus on Self-regulation as cited in Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

- Staff can encourage children to see their role in the bigger picture, encouraging children to know their views count, value each other’s views and values and talk about their feelings, for example when they do or do not need help. When appropriate we will demonstrate democracy in action, for example, children sharing views on what the theme of their role play area could be with a show of hands.
- Staff can support the decisions that children make and provide activities that involve turn-taking, sharing and collaboration. Children will be given opportunities to develop enquiring minds in an atmosphere where questions are valued.

**Rule of law:** understanding rules matter as cited in Personal Social and Emotional development as part of the focus on self-regulation:

- Staff will help our children to understand their own and others’ behaviour and its consequences, and learn to distinguish right from wrong.
- Staff will collaborate with children to create the rules and the codes of behaviour, for example, to agree the rules about tidying up and ensure that all children understand rules apply to everyone.

**Individual liberty:** freedom for all as part of the focus on Self-regulation, managing self, Building Relationships and people, culture & communities as cited in Personal Social and Emotional development and Understanding the World:

- Children will be helped to develop a positive sense of themselves. Staff will 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.
- Staff will 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 a small group 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 & communities, Self-regulation and Building Relationships as cited in Personal Social and Emotional Development and Understanding the World:

- Leaders will create an ethos of inclusivity and tolerance where views, faiths, cultures and races are valued and children are engaged with the wider community.
- Children will acquire a tolerance and appreciation 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 share and discuss practices, celebrations and experiences. Staff will encourage and explain the importance of tolerant behaviours such as sharing and respecting other's opinions.

- Staff will 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.

The following approaches would be deemed as non-supportive in terms of implementing the Prevent Duty in our school and community;

- actively promoting intolerance of other faiths, cultures and races
- failure to challenge gender stereotypes and routinely segregate girls and boys
- isolating children from their wider community
- failure 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.

Statutory guidance on the prevent duty is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance/prevent-duty-guidance-for-england-and-wales-accessible>