



Deerness Valley Nursery

British Values Policy

The DFE have delegated the responsibility, “to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs”.

Promoting British Values

At Deerness Valley Nursery we believe that our aims, values and curriculum provide a solid foundation upon which to build a young child’s understanding and acceptance of diversity and difference. We want our children to start developing the key attitudes that will enable them to make positive contributions to society as citizens in the future. We would challenge pupils, staff or parents who expressed opinions contrary to fundamental British values.

Democracy

Children have opportunities to speak and listen to each other and make choices and decisions about life at nursery. We work hard to boost children’s self-esteem and provide them with the confidence and ‘voice’ to share thoughts, feelings and to make sensible choices within a safe and supportive environment.

Children are taught about the values and reasons behind our nursery ‘rules’ and that they are there to keep us safe and to prevent discrimination of any kind. Children are involved in discussing the rules, with an expectation that everyone adheres to them, understanding that if rules are broken, there are consequences.

There are numerous opportunities for parents to communicate with us and have their voice heard eg parent questionnaires, Family app and most importantly, an understanding that we are available to listen every single day should parents or families need it.

The Rule of Law

We consistently demonstrate high expectations for mutual respect, tolerance and personal responsibility within our whole school community. Children are taught the value and reasons behind our high expectations, so that they understand them better and co-operate with them.

Individual Liberty

We are an inclusive setting and our ethos and curriculum enables children to be independent learners, to make choices and to build strong relationships with their peers and all adults. Our setting believes that children flourish best when their personal, social and emotional needs are met and where there are clear and developmentally appropriate expectations for their behaviour.

Mutual Respect

We value all of our children and families. We celebrate cultural and religious diversity and promote mutual respect. Children show respect through caring, sharing and listening to others. Adults help children to understand how actions and words affect others. All children, including those with special educational needs and disabilities are valued for their individuality, their unique contributions and supported to achieve their best. Children are taught that life is not the same for everyone through discussion and partnerships with local charities such as The Real Junk Food Project (ReFuse).



Deerness Valley Nursery

Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs

We aim to introduce children to different faiths and beliefs through the different celebrations throughout the year. We do this through exploration of food, music, dress/costume of other cultures and believe that the broader the child's experiences, the more confident and effective they are likely to be at contributing to Britain's diverse society. While we do have a distinctly Christian ethos we welcome families with any belief or no-faith at all. The faith and culture including important days of each of our families are explored through discussions, activities, food and crafts as applicable.

Our children's social, moral, spiritual and cultural development is firmly underpinned by the inclusive ethos of the school and further enhanced by a range of planned experiences and resources which promote a wider understanding of people, families and communities beyond their own. Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights, including sharing with them the UNICEF Rights of the Child and our own set of "We Are" Values – see our Behaviour policy.

How do we teach British values?

We don't plan specific 'lessons' to teach children British values – they are included in everything we do. 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, each of them a valuable part of our multicultural world.

Here are some examples of how British Values are embedded in our day-to-day curriculum:

- We teach children to be kind, helpful and respectful of others.
- We teach children to be part of their local community through being out and about in our community and contributing to the care of the Deerness Valley Way.
- We plan to celebrate festivals and mark special days from the world around us.
- We teach the children about the respect for others that comes from the understanding that everyone is valuable.
- We teach children to work together – we provide them with projects that involve working as a team and we plan group times where children learn to listen, take turns and value contributions from others. This type of planning is a very important part of British values - teaching about shared values and working together towards a common goal.
- We teach children about the world in which they live – their immediate locality and the wider world – through books, pictures, activities, resources, outings and much more.
- We teach children to listen and respect others.
- We teach children about the world around them and use the seasons, weather, special days etc to plan meaningful learning experiences.
- We teach children about Britain, showing them the work of sculptors and artists to inspire creativity, listening to music to promote dance and drama.
- We extend teaching, using the library and online sources of information and support them as they learn to respect others by introducing music, dance, art etc. from around the world.

Latest Review: June 2023