



Hedgehogs Nursery School

.....Learning Together Through Play!

Fundamental British Values in the Early Years

At Hedgehogs Nursery School, teaching British values means providing a curriculum which actively promote(s) the Fundamental British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Teaching the children British values is embedded 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 endeavour to teach our children that it is possible to live together peacefully, each of them a valuable part of our multicultural world.

Democracy: making decisions together

As part of the focus on self-confidence and self-awareness as highlighted in Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

- Managers and staff will 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 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 will 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.

Promoting democracy – everyone has a voice and is listened to;

- We have a 'Child's voice' where children can tell us what they like at nursery and what they would like more/less of.
- In group times we listen to their ideas and implement them in the planning.
- We use our Golden Rules, in group times we discuss the rules and our feelings.
- Using thoughtful questions and comments we encourage children to listen to each others ideas and work together as a team.
- We use timers to help the children take turns and share.
- We teach children to work together – we provide them with projects that involve everyone in the setting 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 this helps to teach about shared values and working together towards common goals.

Rule of law: understanding rules matter as cited in Personal Social and Emotional development

As part of the focus on managing feelings and behaviour:

- Staff will help children understand their own and others behaviour and consequences, and learn to distinguish right from wrong.
- Staff will work 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.

Promoting the rule of law: teaching children right wrong (including the police in a ‘people who help us’ theme.)

- We teach the children “The Golden Rules” using books, puppets, praise, role modelling and reward stickers. We focus on one rule at a time and tell a story, as we see the children displaying positive behaviour we reward with special stickers.
- Hedgehogs Nursery School Rules – We are Kind, Helpful and Gentle, We use quiet voices Inside, We use walking feet inside, We listen to others and We are polite.
- Using PALS program the children learn to talk about their feelings and manage their behaviour, they make up their own rules for group time and we have a Cool Down Corner, a place to go when we feel angry.
- Tidy up time: We all work together at tidy up time, we teach the children the importance of co-operation to get the job done!

Individual liberty: freedom for all

As part of the focus on self-confidence & self-awareness and people & communities as highlighted in Personal Social and Emotional development and Understanding the World:

- Children should 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 how they feel about transferring into Reception Class.

Promoting Individual Liberty: teaching children to have a positive self-image, be confident in themselves, their ideas and abilities.

Promoting mutual respect and tolerance: ensuring children have the right to say ‘no’ and be respected for their choices; including world religions and festivals in our planning to teach children about the world in which they live; linking children’s learning so they understand they are part of a much wider world; displaying posters and reading books which show world religions and cultures, blended families, disability, equality of opportunity.

We teach children to be kind, helpful and respectful of others; we model how to share opinions and be respectful of others through sensitive reminders.

- We teach children about the world around them and use the seasons, weather, food, music and special days to plan meaningful learning experiences;
- We teach children to be part of their local community;
- We plan to celebrate festivals and mark special days from the world around us;
- We teach children about the world in which they live – the world on their doorstep and the wider world – through books, posters, planned activities, resources, outings and much more;
- We celebrate special multicultural days from our local community and the wider world.
- We use our special Comfort books, toys and displays to learn about each other’s families and traditions. We invite our families in to share food, stories, music and ideas with us.
- We invite parents to volunteer and tell us about Family celebrations; Birthdays, Weddings, New Babies, Christenings.
- We plan to provide resources, experiences and activities that are available to all children regardless of gender or cultural background. We encourage all the children to take part in all activities that interest them. We aim to provide a variety that reflects the diversity of the community in which we live.

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