

BRITISH VALUES IN EARLY YEARS POLICY

Statement of intent

Little Acorns believes that it is our duty to uphold fundamental British values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs.

Aim

Little Acorns will cover these values putting into practice the ideas stated in our statutory guidance.

These areas are split into four parts:

Democracy – making decisions together

Rule of law – understanding rules matter as cited in Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

Individual liberty – freedom for all

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

Methods

Democracy

As part of the focus on self-confidence and self-awareness as cited in Personal, Social and Emotional development staff at Little Acorns will encourage children to see their role in the bigger picture, encouraging children to know that their views count, value each other's views and values and talk about their feelings, for example when they do or don't need help. When appropriate we will demonstrate democracy in action, for example, children sharing views on what the theme of the role play area could be with a show of hands. Little Acorns staff will support decisions that the 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

As part of the focus on managing feelings and behaviour Little Acorns will ensure that children understand their own and others' behaviour and its consequences, and learn to distinguish right from wrong. We will collaborate with children to create the rules and codes of behaviour, for example, to agree the rules about tidying up and ensure that all the children understand rules apply to everyone.

Individual liberty

As part of the focus on self-confidence & self-awareness and people and communities as cited in Personal, Social and Emotional development and Understanding the World children should develop a positive sense of themselves. At Little Acorns we 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 obstacle courses, mixing colours, talking about their experiences and learning. We will also 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.

Mutual respect and tolerance

As part of the focus on people & communities, managing feelings & behaviour and making relationships as cited in Personal, Social and Emotional development and Understanding the World we at Little Acorns aim to create an ethos of inclusivity and tolerance where views, faiths, cultures and races are valued and children are engaged with the wider community.

Our 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 we will share and discuss practices, celebrations and experiences.

We will encourage and explain the importance of tolerant behaviours such as sharing and respecting other's opinions.

We 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.