



British Values Policy

Statement of intent

At The Oak Montessori we ensure that British Values play a pivotal part in our daily schedule from the moment children arrive at our Nursery School. We aim to provide each child with the opportunity to learn how to make decisions together, to understand why rules matter, to enable each child to use their voice and freedom of speech in an environment where tolerance and mutual respect sit at the heart of our learning journey.

Parent Partnership

We aim to provide our parents with a firm understanding of British Values, taking into consideration the spiritual, moral, social and cultural backgrounds of our pupils and families. We will share British Values displays and communicate the meaning of British Values to ensure that they are understood universally.

The 4 Areas of British Values

Democracy: making decisions together

- Encourage children to see their role in the bigger picture, 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, eg. vote with a show of hands.
- Support the decisions that children make and provide activities that involve turn-taking, sharing and collaboration. Children should be given opportunities to develop enquiring minds in an atmosphere where questions are valued.

Rule of law: understanding rules matter

- Ensure that children understand their own and others' behaviour and its consequences, and learn to distinguish right from wrong.
- 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

- Help children to develop a positive sense of themselves. 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.



- 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, eg. in a small group discuss what they feel about transferring into Reception Class at their new big schools.

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

- Create an ethos of inclusivity and tolerance where views, faiths, cultures and races are valued and children are engaged with the wider community.
- Discuss similarities and differences between themselves and others and among families, faiths, communities, cultures and traditions and share and discuss practices, celebrations and experiences.
- Explain the importance of tolerant behaviours such as sharing and respecting other's opinions.
- Promote diverse attitudes and challenge stereotypes eg. sharing stories that reflect and value the diversity of children's experiences and providing resources and activities that challenge gender, cultural and racial stereotyping.

Unacceptable Actions

We will not endorse the following actions:

- 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

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