**Promoting British Values**

From 2015 the Ofsted common assessment framework includes a section on promoting fundamental British values across all values of education, so here at 1st steps we are fully committed to serving our community and ensuring that any groups or individuals within our nursery are not subjected to intimidation or radicalization.

The fundamental British values are set out in the 2014 early years foundation stage guidance and it is emphasized that all educational settings in the UK ensure that these values are taught. These values include

**Democracy** – As part of the focus on Self confidence and self awareness we encourage our children to see their role in the larger community, value theirs and each others' views, talk about their personal feelings and to know their view counts, for example when they do or do not need help.. It's about making decisions together. 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 can 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

**The Rule of Law** – As part of the focus on managing feelings and behaviour we ensure our children understand their own and others behaviours and their consequences, support them in distinguishing from right and wrong and to collaborate with each other to create the rules and codes of behaviour, for example, to agree the rules about tidying up and ensure that all children understand rules apply to everyone..Understanding rules matter as cited in Personal Social and Emotional development

Our golden rules promote these rules. They include:

* Smile and use good manners! Neither cost time or money;
* Take care of all nursery property;
* Respect other peoples belongings and personal space;
* Respect Privacy;
* Be punctual at all times;
* Be kind to everyone in our words and actions;
* Always be polite, say please and thank you;
* Sit together during meal times;
* Make everyone feel welcome and happy to be at 1st Steps.

The Traffic light system in room 5 & 6 promotes the rules of law within the nursery. Children work hard to show positive behaviour throughout the day. If their behaviour slips they work hard to improve it again.

**Individual liberty** – As part of the focus on understanding of the world we provide opportunities for children to develop their self knowledge and increase their confidence in their own abilities, also to encourage a range of activities 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.

Children should develop a positive sense of themselves. Staff can 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.

**Mutual respect and tolerance** – treat others as you want to be treated. As part of the focus on self confidence and understanding of the world we create an ethos of inclusivity and tolerance where all views, faiths, cultures and races are valued.

We create an ethos of inclusivity and tolerance where views, faiths, cultures and races are valued and children are engaged with the wider community. Over the calendar year we also look at and celebrate a variety of festivals which are celebrated by other cultures throughout the year. We will decorate the nursery according to what festival we’re celebrating and we will look in detail how and why different cultures celebrate these festivals.

Children should 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 should encourage and explain the importance of tolerant behaviours such as sharing and respecting other’s opinions. Staffs should 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. A minimum approach, for example having notices on the walls or multi-faith books on the shelves will fall short of ‘actively promoting’.

We believe that all our children should be brought up with these basic values.

What is not acceptable at 1st Steps is:

·  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.

If you feel our nursery is not meeting this requirement or is intentionally undermining these values, please discuss with Alex, Bev or a senior member of staff. If you feel that the managers collectively not meeting these requirements you should contact OFSTED on 0300 123 1231

Written by: Alex Walker & Michael Stewart Nov 15 Next Review: May 18

**Learning and development**

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