



## **Ghanshyam Nursery School**

'Laying the foundations for life'

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# British Values Policy

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## **British Values**

Ghanshyam Nursery School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children as we believe that this is of paramount importance. We expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We uphold the rights of everyone to equality under the law regardless of gender, age, race, belief, ability, disability, sexual orientation or identity.

We believe that our core school motto ('Laying the foundations for life' - We strive to provide the highest quality childcare facilities and personnel for the social, personal, cultural and religious advancement of the child) and British values are not mutually exclusive. We focus on ensuring our work is effective in securing this motto; challenging children, staff and parents/carers who express opinions contrary to the British values with regard to our duty to prevent extremism and radicalisation. Ghanshyam Nursery School has the highest regard for the safety of the children in our care and will carry out its duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children at all times.

We will actively promote the fundamental British values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance (for those with different faiths and beliefs) across the setting and they are included within The United Nations Convention of the rights of the child 1989. (UNCRC) We have a wide range of resources and plan activities that reflect and value the diversity of children's experiences and actively challenge gender, cultural and radical stereotyping. We help the children gain an understanding of people, families and communities beyond their immediate experience. We promote positive behaviour and have an Equal Opportunities policy.

Through our British Values policy which promotes children's well-being and is embedded in our day to day work we promote equality, diversity and tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths and lifestyles. Each day the children are taught the difference between right and wrong and learn to take turns and share. Staff would challenge negative attitudes and stereotypes and the children are taught about the world in which they live and are developed to understand life in modern Britain.

Many of our activities present opportunities for exploring and promoting each of the British values. We will do our utmost to protect children against extremist and violent views by identifying the risk of being drawn into radicalisation and providing a safe inclusive learning environment that supports spiritual, moral, social and cultural development through the promotion of fundamental British values.

We ensure that children have respect for all and we support children to gain a positive sense of themselves. We encourage the children to speak up during circle time and learn to listen to what their friends are saying. Children are involved in the planning process to show that their opinions matter and that they are valued. By reading books on communities from around the world and sometimes having a country as our topic we are educating the children that people have different ways of life and are a valuable part of our multi-cultural world.

The aim of our policy is to prevent a child from being drawn into terrorism by being radicalised or support extremism in later years. We hope that by teaching children these British values from a young age they will grow into adults who are tolerant and accepting. We recognise that the United Kingdom is a multi-cultural and multi-faith diverse society and we teach the children that it is possible to live together peacefully and that each person is a valuable part of our multi-cultural world. Our diversity has created a strong bond and promoting British values is about encouraging the children to share a set of values that promote tolerance, respect and community cohesion.

Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

Extremism is defined in the 2011 'Prevent strategy' as vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

We believe that by developing a sense of belonging to our country and supporting our core values we can prevent radicalisation and we are of the opinion that it would be unacceptable of us to:

- Actively promote intolerance of other faiths, cultures and races.
- Fail to challenge gender stereotypes.
- Isolate children from the wider community.
- Fail to challenge behaviours that are contrary to British Values.

### **British Values are defined as:**

1. Democracy - making decisions together, for example giving opportunities to develop enquiring minds in an atmosphere where questions are valued.
2. The rule of law - understanding rules matter as cited in Personal Social and Emotional development for example collaborating with children to create rules and codes of behaviour.
3. Individual liberty - freedom for all, for example reflecting on their differences and understanding we are free to have different opinions
4. Mutual respect and tolerance- treat others as you want to be treated, for example sharing and respecting other's opinions

These values are fundamental to helping all children become compassionate considerate adults who form part of a fair and equal society.

The EYFS place duties on providers to keep children safe and promote their welfare. It makes clear that to protect children in their care, providers must be alert to any issues for concern in the child's life at home or elsewhere (paragraph 3.4 EYFS).

Please see table on how we can promote British values in the early years.

At Ghanshyam nursery, we demonstrate these values through the management and implementation of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), and through policies and procedures relating to equality, behaviour and safeguarding, with which the Prevent Duty is entirely consistent. We ensure that we share these values, and that they are understood and applied by all staff, volunteers, and where appropriate, parents.

Our values focus on children's personal, social and emotional development, ensuring children learn right from wrong, mix and share with other children, value other's views, know about similarities and differences between themselves and others, and challenge negative attitudes and stereotypes

#### How we follow British Values as a Nursery

1. We follow and believe in the nursery values as well as our ethos and philosophy,
2. The best way to help children resist extremist views or challenge views such as creationism is to teach them to think critically and become independent learners, which is fundamental to the Characteristics of Effective Learning and Teaching embedded in the EYFS,
3. We endeavour to support our children through the EYFS by providing playful learning opportunities to help them develop positive and diverse identities, as well as their well-being, their empathy and emotional literacy, while continuing to take action to eradicate inequalities, bullying, discrimination, exclusion, aggression and violence; all of which fosters and secures, children's pro-social behaviours and responsible citizenship and real sense of belonging,
4. We celebrate and mark British occasions and festivals such as:
  - Burns night
  - Valentine's day
  - Shrove Tuesday/ pancake day
  - St. David's Day
  - St. Patricks Day
  - Mother's Day
  - Easter
  - Father's Day
  - Queen's birthday
  - Halloween
  - Harvest Festival
  - Christmas
5. We also ensure our children and practitioners have regard for the following(as well as many others):
  - Table manners

- Listening to each other
- Learning about heritage and history
- Saying please and thank you
- Teaching empathy and understanding
- Learning British weather and seasons
- Cooking, eating and learning about traditional British food
- Celebrating British authors and illustrators

#### How we involve children in decision making and following British Values

1. Children's thought and feelings are respected by all practitioners
2. We keep a written record of all children's thoughts and feelings to ensure they feel valued
3. We use golden rules and additional rules that are made up by the children
4. Children's thoughts and values are displayed
5. During circle times and group sessions, children are encouraged to talk about their values
6. Children are taken out to the local environment to socialise and meet with other ethnic cultures.

#### Our aims

- Promoting equality, diversity and British values will be at the heart of our work and will be demonstrated through our practices.
- We would tackle any instances of discrimination and would be alert to potential risks from radicalisation and extremism.
- To provide an exceptional range of resources and activities that reflects and values the diversity of children's experiences.
- Staff would actively challenge cultural and racial stereotyping to help children gain an understanding of people, families and communities beyond their immediate experience.
- To give children a wide range of experiences that promotes an understanding of people, families and communities beyond their own.
- To teach children the language of feelings.
- To give children the opportunity to reflect on differences and negative behaviour.
- To actively support a chosen charity within the United Kingdom and abroad.
- To build further links within the community and introduce "pen pals" from both this country and abroad.

In line with our work on British Values the charities that we actively support are; St. Luke's Hospice, Cancer Research UK, Red Nose Day and many more.