

## PROMOTING BRITISH VALUES

At CMN we are committed to promoting the British Values of:

- \*DEMOCRACY
- \*RULE OF LAW
- \*INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY
- \*MUTUAL RESPECT AND TOLERANCE

These values are embedded throughout our daily routines, interactions, and curriculum, helping to prepare children for life in modern Britain.

### 1. Democracy

Democracy is where we make decisions together. Like many of the other British values, it's also about making sure that everyone has equal rights and is treated equally. Each child's views matter, and it's important they are given the opportunity to share and collaborate to make decisions together.

This is how we promote democracy at our nurseries:

- Enabling children to feel comfortable with questions is an important part of improving their confidence. We make sure that we have an environment that allows inquiring minds to **ask questions** is key to promoting a democratic way of thinking.
- Many of the British values encourage **sharing and collaborating**, and it's one of the most important skills children learn in the early years. We develop provisions that encourage and support collaborating and working together towards a common goal wherever possible.
- We encourage democracy by involving kids in decision-making, like asking them to raise their hands to vote on certain choices.
- Letting them be a part of making displays and other things around the setting also allows them to actively participate in a democracy by giving them a choice.

## 2. Rule of law

The Rule of law is about understanding that rules matter in our society and are to be followed for a reason. For kids, it's about helping them understand that actions have consequences and understanding the difference between right and wrong.

This is how we promote the rule of law at our nurseries:

- The most obvious way to introduce the rule of law into our settings is by having simple, consistent classroom rules. Ideally, children will have a hand in creating and agreeing on these themselves. We make sure that we model behaviour by following these rules ourselves. "Remembering children copy what they see and hear".
- Understanding the nature of cause and effect is a massive part of the rule of law. Young children enjoy learning how their actions can change things. We encourage this by letting them make positive impacts in their environment.
- Actions have consequences. Showing this to children shouldn't be about shame, that's not what British values are about. Instead, we explain to children how something they have done might have made another child feel and working on empathy, instead of just asking them to say a meaningless 'sorry'.

## 3. Individual liberty

Individual Liberty focuses on freedom for everyone. The main point developmentally is to give children a positive sense of themselves. It's important to help children boost their self-confidence and self-awareness. This can be done by giving them the right language and context to understand their emotions.

This is how we promote the Individual Liberty at our nurseries:

- Child-led play is a simple way to develop a child's liberty. We aim at letting children follow their interests boosts their self-confidence more than sticking to a set plan we made for them.
- We encourage children to enjoy their favourite things and explore them. We let them mix their own colours and see what happens. Read their favourite book to them. Allow them to collect leaves and sticks that catch their interest in the forest.
- While health and safety is important it shouldn't get in the way of risky play. It's absolutely crucial to develop a child's sense of confidence and awareness of what they're doing.

## 4. Mutual respect and tolerance

Create a welcoming environment that embraces all beliefs, cultures, races, and perspectives, while also recognising and celebrating our unique qualities.

How you can promote mutual respect and acceptance at your Early Years setting:

- Encourage them to be aware of our similarities and differences. This is key to respecting other cultures that might seem entirely different from their own background.
- Create a calendar of cultural events, and find ways to incorporate them into the activities at your setting. This way children are able to understand and play a part in cultures that they wouldn't necessarily see in their lives outside of the nursery.
- Storytime is a great opportunity to explore different cultures and backgrounds with kids in a fun and engaging way. Look for [stories about children](#) with diverse experiences. These stories will captivate young minds and help them understand and respect other faiths and cultures.
- An understanding of the wider community in which they live is also a way of showing the diverse world that we live in. [Taking the children out on day trips](#) is just one way to do this.