



## 1.16 Promoting and Teaching British Values

At Smiths Children we 'actively promote fundamental British values throughout the nursery. We promote spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development with children through our planning and everyday routines, activities and discussions.

### **Democracy**

We allow children to express themselves and make sure that they feel valued and respected. We encourage children to make decisions for themselves about the activities they would like to participate in and about their environment. We allow children to make their own choices constantly throughout the day, such as what they would like for snack, activities they would like to participate in and if they would like to go outside etc. As we provide an authentic Montessori environment, we very much encourage independence from an early age.

### **The Rule of Law**

Within our nursery we promote positive behaviour. We encourage children to talk about choices and their possible consequences so that they can distinguish right from wrong. We give children clear rules and boundaries and we encouraging them to choose their activities and equipment and to tidy up after themselves. In group activities we often talk about the different authorities such as the Police, Fire Service and Paramedics and how they help our community stay safe.

### **Individual Liberty**

We allow children to make their own choices throughout the day. We encourage independence from an early age which increases self-esteem and self-confidence within a safe and supportive environment. We also encourage children to take risks according to their age and ability. We promote children's rights to be strong, resilient and listened to by creating an environment in our setting that encourages children to develop independence, confidence, a positive self-image, which includes their heritage arising from their colour and ethnicity, their languages spoken at home, their religious beliefs, cultural traditions and home background. We offer a range of experiences which allow children to explore and share their feelings and reflect on their differences such as story time, circle time and show and tell.

### **Mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs**

We encourage children to treat everybody with mutual respect by being good role models ourselves. We are a fully inclusive setting and welcome people from all different backgrounds and religions, we encourage parental involvement as much as possible. We celebrate religions and beliefs and the different festivities through dressing up, food tasting, cooking, stories, art and singing. Our Montessori program fits perfectly with 'British Values' through our Grace and Courtesy lessons.

Children between the ages of 2.5 to 6 are in a sensitive period for learning courtesy and manners. Learning to act appropriately in one's own culture is another aspect of the lessons of Grace and Courtesy. These lessons begin as soon as the child enters the Montessori environment. By developing a sense of cultural awareness, children learn how to live with dignity, respect and politeness toward themselves and others.

### **Staff have received training in the following areas:**

SENCO, ENCO, Safeguarding

### **Policies that are linked to 'Teaching and Promoting British Values' are:**

- 1.1 - Children's Rights and Entitlements
- 1.16 - The Prevent Duty
- 2.1 - Inclusion
- 2.2 - Supporting children with special educational needs
- 2.3 - Achieving positive behaviour
- 2.4 - English as an additional language
- 2.5 - Valuing diversity and promoting equality
- 7.1 - Parental Involvement