



Statement of Promotion of Fundamental British Values

St Pauls Steiner School Kindergarten

Introduction

The Fundamental British Values as set out by the DfE are democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths, beliefs, cultures and heritages. We believe that these values are firmly embedded, both in the Steiner ethos and in the culture of our school. They are also implicit in the EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum) and there are extensive opportunities to promote them through our work with the children on a day to day basis. Promotion of these values is also linked to the separate Prevent Duty set out in the Counter Terrorism and Security Act, where Early Years providers have a duty 'to have due regard to the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism.' (Please see our Safeguarding policy for further information on this.)

Examples of how these values are embedded in our practice

Democracy – making decisions together: *part of the EYFS focus on PSED: managing self and building relationships.*

This is modelled in our staff structure where collegiality and support for each other are of central importance. There is a strong, healthy and supportive community surrounding the children in the Early Years which allows the children to feel their role in the bigger picture of kindergarten, school, family and community. We support the children carefully and thoughtfully in dealing with each other. With this support, through play, games and stories the children learn to share, take turns, collaborate and negotiate. They learn to listen, understand and empathise with each other and to value each other's views.

Rule of law – understanding rules matter: *part of the EYFS focus on PSED: managing self and building relationships.*

We support the children to understand the behaviour expected of them at Kindergarten by modelling this behaviour to the children for them to imitate and by the loving support given to each child throughout the day. We have 'Golden Rules' to guide behaviour such as:

- *Gentle Hands*
- *Kind Words*
- *Indoor voices*
- *Indoor feet*
- *Everyone is welcome*
- *Our hands are for work and play*

The older children, who are at the age where they enjoy rules, are positive role models for the youngest. We work as a group; through repetition of the daily rhythm, the

children understand their part in contributing to the Kindergarten eg doing their tidy job at tidy time or serving others at snack time.

Individual Liberty – freedom for all: *Part of the EYFS focus on PSED Managing self and Building relationships and in Understanding the world: People, culture and communities*

The aim of our work is to lay the foundations for seeing the good in humanity, for a compassionate and tolerant outlook on life and for a strong sense of social responsibility. We support the children to develop a positive sense of themselves, develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and increase their confidence in their own abilities, through being allowed to take risks and through increased responsibility throughout their three years in Kindergarten. There is a focus on developing each child's independence and sense of agency, for example with putting on our own waterproofs and then supporting others who might need help.

Through conversation around the snack table or during an activity, teachers support the children to listen to and accept each other's opinions and differences. Children learn through imitation that everyone is valued and free to express themselves. Kindergarten songs, rhymes, books and stories are chosen so that all children and families see themselves represented including single parents, same-sex parents, step-families and adoptive families. Our stories are chosen to ensure that there are protagonists from a wide range of cultural backgrounds and active female and male role models.

Mutual respect and tolerance - treat others as you want to be treated: *Part of the EYFS focus on PSED Managing self and Building relationships and in Understanding the world: People, culture and communities*

Our kindergarten community is international and multicultural and we aim to create an inclusive ethos where all feel valued and welcomed. We celebrate a number of festivals throughout the year where the whole community is invited. At one of them we invite parents to speak a verse in their own language so that we are all surrounded with the beauty of the sound of our many languages. Festivals give us a valuable glimpse into other cultures through sharing songs, stories, and traditions. Parents and children are actively encouraged to share stories, songs, handcrafts, and festivals from their own cultural traditions. Teachers work in partnership with families to bring these into the life of the kindergarten. This is one of the many ways that we seek to celebrate each child's unique identity and establish a sense of belonging within the community.

In kindergarten, we ensure that we include stories from a wide range of cultures and that our dolls and puppets have diverse skin tones. Dressing up clothes are also chosen to reflect cultural diversity. Skin tone pencils ensure that all children can accurately represent themselves in their drawings. Children are supported to be accepting and tolerant of each other. A mood of gratitude and reverence is developed, which creates respect for everyone in the kindergarten and the wider community. From this foundation the children will go out into the world with respect for others.

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