



Promoting British Values at Butterflies Montessori School.

The DfE have promoted the need "to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs."

Within Butterflies Montessori School these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy:

We listen to children's and parent's voice. As part of our school Behaviour Policy we expect children to contribute and co-operate, taking into account the views of others. We give children a voice in different ways, for example we give the children a vote at circle time to choose which book they will be read. We discuss with the children that their choice might not always win, but we accept the majority. If two children would like to work with the same activity, they would either discuss sharing the activity, or wait until the other child had finished.

The Rule of Law:

We consistently reinforce our high expectations of children. Children are taught the value and reasons behind our expectations (rules), they are there to protect us, that everyone has a responsibility and that there are consequences when rules are broken. The children have helped us write Butterflies ground rules, for example "We walk in the classroom and we use kind hands". We also explain the reasoning behind the rules, for example only three children are allowed in the movement corner for safety reasons. The children use the sand timer to allocate time in the Movement corner, and when the timer is finished they come out and put their shoes on to allow the next child in.

Individual Liberty:

Within school, children are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for young children to make choices safely, through our provision of a safe environment and empowering teaching. Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms. Children are supported in making choices with regards to their



activities, who they play with and the environment in which they work in. If another child would like to join someone in their activity they would need to ask them first. When working on the floor a child places their work on a floor mat, the other children then respect their workspace.

Mutual Respect:

Part of our school ethos and Behaviour Policy has revolved around Core Values such as 'Respect', and children are modelled this by caring, sharing and listening to others. Staff help children to understand how to respect others by talking about how their actions/words can affect others. This is done in an age appropriate way. For example we have a peace rose, if a child is upset by another child's actions or behaviour; they take the peace rose to the other child accompanied by an adult. They take turns to pass the rose and talk to each other about how they feel. This takes place with children that would be able to understand and appreciate the process.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

We aim to enhance children's understanding of different faiths and beliefs by participating in a range of celebrations throughout the year. Children have the opportunity to dress-up in clothes and try different foods from other cultures and we encourage parents/carers to participate and support our multi-cultural events. We ask parents and carers to share with Butterflies how they celebrate their faith and culture.