

Promoting British Values

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child – Article 14

At Castle Vale Nursery School, we are committed to creating a safe, nurturing and inclusive environment where every child feels valued, respected and supported to thrive. Our approach is underpinned by strong, positive relationships and a trauma-informed ethos, recognising that children learn best when they feel secure, understood and connected. Through our daily practice, we promote independence, emotional wellbeing and a sense of belonging, ensuring that all children develop the skills they need to engage positively with others and the world around them.

All of this helps form our framework for promoting Fundamental British Values – democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faith and belief.

Democracy

We promote democracy by ensuring that all children, families and staff have a voice and feel heard.

- Children are encouraged to express their thoughts, feelings and preferences.
- Staff actively listen and respond to the **voice of the child** through daily interactions and reflective conversations.
- Children are supported to make choices within their play and learning.
- Children are given opportunities to take on responsibilities within the setting, helping them to develop confidence, independence and a sense of belonging.
- Parents and carers contribute through feedback and partnership working.

In practice:

We create opportunities for shared decision-making, encouraging children to take an active role in their environment and routines and to feel valued and respected. This supports them in understanding fairness, making choices and developing respect for others, in line with our relational and inclusive ethos.

The Rule of Law

We support children to understand the importance of rules, boundaries and keeping themselves and others safe.

- We have clear rules, policies, procedures and routines in place for all members of our school community.
- Clear, consistent expectations and routines help children feel secure.
- Boundaries are taught through **co-regulation, modelling and restorative conversations**, rather than punishment.
- Children are supported to understand the consequences of their actions in a safe and non-judgemental way.

In practice:

Our trauma-informed approach ensures children are supported to **reflect on behaviour**, repair relationships and develop self-regulation skills.

Individual Liberty

We promote individual liberty by supporting children to develop independence, confidence and self-awareness.

- Carefully planned, open-ended resources and extended periods of child-initiated play enable children to explore freely, choose resources, direct their own learning, and decide where and with whom they learn, supporting their interests and developing independence.
- We encourage children to express their ideas, interests and feelings.
- Children are supported to make safe choices with guidance from trusted adults.
- Children are supported to independently access their basic needs, including the toilet, food and drink, throughout the day.

In practice:

Our enabling environment, including child-initiated learning, supports autonomy while ensuring children feel safe and supported.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is at the heart of our school community and relationships.

- We model respectful, warm and empathetic interactions.
- Children are supported to understand and respond to the feelings of others.
- Positive relationships are prioritised between children, families and staff.
- We promote respect for all individuals, recognising and valuing differences including age, disability, gender, gender identity, race, nationality, religion or belief, and sexual orientation.
- We build strong relationships through play sessions, home visits, admission meetings, greeting at the door and workshops.
- We listen to one another and value everyone's voice.
- We use Tapestry to support communication and shared understanding with families.
- We maintain an open-door policy to strengthen partnerships with families.

In practice:

Through our relational ethos, we promote empathy, connection and respectful communication, ensuring everyone feels valued and included.

Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs

We celebrate diversity and promote understanding of different cultures, faiths and beliefs.

- Children learn about similarities and differences through play, discussion and experiences.
- We use inclusive resources that reflect a diverse society.
- Festivals and cultural events are recognised and celebrated.

In practice:

We create an inclusive environment where all children and families feel respected and represented, supporting a strong sense of belonging.

Our Approach

Our promotion of British Values is embedded through:

- A **trauma-informed approach** that prioritises emotional safety and wellbeing
- Strong, nurturing relationships built on **trust and connection**
- **Co-regulation and reflective practice** to support behaviour and learning
- Inclusive practices that ensure equality and respect for all

Through this approach, children develop the skills to:

- Build positive relationships
- Make informed choices
- Understand their feelings and behaviour
- Respect others and their community

Conclusion

At Castle Vale Nursery School, British Values are not taught in isolation but are **lived and experienced every day** through our ethos, relationships and curriculum.

We are committed to creating a safe, inclusive and nurturing environment where every child can flourish and become a respectful, confident and active member of society.