

Promoting British Values at Bishop Sutton Preschool & Forest Club

The Department for Education have recently reinforced 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.” This is reiterated in the Prevent Duty Guidance that came in on 1 July 2015 requiring us to “have due regard to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”.

At Bishop Sutton Preschool we have traditionally applied these values in the way we care for and educate children. We understand that the society we live in is diverse and our work at Preschool reflects this.

We actively promote these values in the following ways:

- **Democracy**

We listen to the child’s voice. Each child is encouraged to participate and give their views, in whatever way suits them. This can be between individuals and also in group activities. Adults demonstrate that we value each child’s contribution, by listening and being considerate. We provide a safe and supporting environment in which children feel confident in speaking up. At regular intervals we ask the children to come up with their own ‘Golden Rules’ for the most important things to remember in how we behave at Preschool. These are then written down by an adult and left on display. We also listen to the parent’s voice by being open to informal discussion at any time, through valuing their feedback at parent’s evenings and we seek their opinions through questionnaires.

- **Rule of Law**

We consistently teach children the value and reasons behind our expectations and rules, that they are there to protect us, that everyone has a responsibility and that there are consequences when rules are broken. We regularly discuss with the children individually and as a group, what we view as respectful, kind, considerate behaviour. We have visits from local police officers who tell us about their jobs and how they keep us safe. Staff all work together so children understand the rules and boundaries within Preschool and the world around us.

- **Individual Liberty**

At Preschool children are actively encouraged to make choices, with the confidence of being in a safe and supportive environment. Children can access any resources from the drawers and freedom to choose whatever activity they would like to do within the structure of the day. At snack time they are able to choose what they would like to eat from a selection of food on each table.

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

Through knowledge and understanding of the world we celebrate different cultures and beliefs. We celebrate British traditions such as Christmas and Royal Family events and we also observe traditions from other cultures such as Chinese New Year and Diwali. We incorporate other languages in our group sessions, particularly those spoken by children with English as an additional language.