

**British Values**

Promoting British Values at St Michael’s Pre-school.

The DfE require all educational settings “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.”

The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. At St Michael’s Pre-school these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

**Democracy**:

We listen to the children’s and parent’s voice.  Our Achieving Positive Behaviours policy is clear that children are expected to contribute and co-operate, taking into account the views of others. Small group time and meaningful conversations with peers and adults, teach our children to listen to and respect other people and their values.

**The Rule of Law**:

We consistently reinforce our high expectations of children.  Children are taught the value and reasons behind our expectations (rules and boundaries); our rules and boundaries are there to protect us and that everyone has a responsibility for them. The use of social stories and directed discussions, helps to communicate our expectations and that our actions have consequence. This enables children to assimilate their understanding of right and wrong.

**Individual Liberty**:

Within pre-school, children are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a setting we educate and provide boundaries for young children to make choices safely, through our provision of a safe environment and empowering teaching. Adults encourage children to help each other during play, snack, lunch and tidy up time, along with promoting independence through awarding small levels of responsibility, nurturing children’s confidence to choose resources and take turns independently.

**Mutual Respect**:

Our pre-school ethos and Achieving Positive Behaviours policy are underpinned by a strong emphasis of ‘Respect’. Adults model this to children by caring, sharing and listening to others. Also, children are helped to understand how to show respect by talking about how actions/words can affect others. We celebrate how we are all unique, different but equal. To ensure our children understand that we respect the wider community, we arrange visits from Police, Library bus, Nurses, and Fire-fighters etc.

**Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs**:

Through routines and teachable moments, we promote tolerance and understanding while celebrating British values. This will help children respect other cultures while developing a sense of national identity. We aim to enhance children’s understanding of different faiths and beliefs by participating in a range of celebrations throughout the year.  We visit the local church, celebrate British traditions such as Shrove Tuesday and we also observe traditions from other cultures such as Chinese New Year and Diwali. 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 activities.