

# Watford Field School Infants & Nursery



## Promoting British Values

The Department for Education (DfE) has 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.'*

### **Democracy**

At Watford Field School (Infants & Nursery) we strive to ensure that we are a democratic society where all pupils and stakeholders have their voices and opinions heard. The School Council members, elected by their peers, ensure that all children are consulted and listened to in developing learning opportunities and experiences for all children.

The School Council have worked together to develop ideas for lunch time provision where increased opportunities for participation in team sports have been developed. All stakeholders are regularly consulted both formally and informally. Annual questionnaires for children, parents and staff are completed and informal consultations are carried out at various times throughout the school year. This year parents have been invited to express their views regarding the school's vision and values and delivery of our creative curriculum.

Through our creative curriculum children are given the opportunity to share their ideas and understanding and contribute to the planning of their learning experiences. Parents are also encouraged to become involved through weekly challenges link to the school's theme.

At the beginning of the school year Class Charters are established to reinforce expectations regarding behaviour in school. Each day opportunities for group discussions are encouraged where children's views, opinions and interests are shared and fed back to their class.

### **The Rule of Law**

At Watford Field School (Infants & Nursery) children are aware that the school rules are there for all children and that everyone is expected to adhere to these. The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently and regularly reinforced through school assemblies and when dealing with behaviour. Our children are taught the values and reasons behind having laws, how these keep us safe and the consequences when our Class Charters and school rules are not followed. This is done through regular Circle Times and cross curricular teaching, for example, people who help us and the school teaching calendar includes visits from the Police and Fire Service.

### **Individual Liberty**

Children are actively encouraged to make choices at school, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. At Watford Field School we are committed to ensuring that our children develop their self-esteem and self-confidence. When dealing with any behaviour issues that may arise, children are reminded that they have a choice and it is up to them to make the right choice and to take responsibility for their behaviour.

As a school we educate and provide boundaries for the children to make choices safely. Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our eSafety and PSHE lessons. There is also a significant focus on their responsibilities to ensure that they are also respectful about the rights of others. They understand the importance of listening to each other and the right to be able to disagree when discussing their viewpoints.

The children have a variety of opportunities to experience activities that they choose to participate in, for example during Child Initiated Learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage and Golden Time.

### **Mutual Respect**

We place a huge emphasis on respecting each other while children are learning and also at play. This is a core value that is promoted through our behaviour management and fundamental in everything we do. Values such as being respectful and also taking personal responsibility for actions are promoted in classes and also in school assemblies. Class Charters promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our school values, as well as our policies and home school agreement.

The resources that are used reflect our many cultural and ethnic diversity particularly books, art materials, videos, songs and music from around the world. Good listening is modelled by adults and is actively promoted. A huge emphasis is placed on promoting and nurturing respectful relationships between all members of the community.

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

Watford Field School serves a very culturally rich community and this is celebrated in our curriculum, activities and commitment to ensure that all experiences are valued.

Differences and similarities between cultures and ethnic groups, disability and gender and family situations are discussed during class and whole school activities. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE.

Children are actively encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. There is a programme of visits to different places of worship, visitors from a range of faiths are invited into school to share their knowledge and significant festivals and religious days are respected and. Any comments deemed as intolerant are treated highly sensitively.