



Batford Nursery School & Day Care

BATFORD NURSERY SCHOOL Statement on British Values

Version	1.2
Based on Model Policy	4Children: Fundamental British Values in the Early Years
Review body:	Head of Centre
Date issued:	March 2025
Review frequency:	Three years
Target audience:	All stakeholders

Version	Date	Notes
V1.0	February 2019	New Statement
V1.1	March 2022	Updating of Batford Owls
V1.2	March 2025	Updated clarifications.

Batford Nursery School and Day Care is committed to:

- Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.
- Eliminating discrimination, advancing equality of opportunity and fostering good relations between different groups. These factors were considered in the formation and review of this policy and will be adhered to in its implementation and application across the whole school community.
- Promoting the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs: any school member or visitor expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views, will be actively challenged.

BUILDING STRONG FOUNDATIONS FOR OUR CHILDREN

Batford Nursery School and Day Care, Holcroft Road, Harpenden AL5 5BQ

1. Rationale

Section 26 of the *Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015*, places a duty on 'specified bodies' – which includes schools and registered childcare providers – to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism". This duty is known as the Prevent duty.

In fulfilment of the Prevent duty, the DfE requires that all early education and childcare settings actively promote British values. The fundamental British values are defined as:

- democracy,
- the rule of law,
- individual liberty and
- mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

At Batford Nursery School, we are privileged to be involved with children at the most impressionable time of their lives. We have a duty under the EYFS Framework to take action to protect children from harm and to be alert to harmful behaviour by other adults in the child's life. Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is just another element of our wider safeguarding duties, and can be viewed as similar in nature to protecting children from other harms (e.g. drugs, neglect, sexual exploitation), whether these come from within the family or are the product of outside influences.

2. Promotion of British Values

The promotion of British Values is firmly embedded within our setting's own values, our curriculum and in the practice of staff at Batford Nursery School. We recognise how British Values are part of our everyday teaching and link directly to the Early Years Foundation Stage statutory framework.

Staff demonstrate these values in their day-to-day interactions with the children, building the solid foundations they need to be safe, and to develop, learn and succeed.

A focus on children's personal, social and emotional development is at the heart of teaching in the setting and, in ways that are appropriate to the individual child's developmental age and maturity, we will seek to ensure that children learn to:

- know the difference between right from wrong;
- mix and share with other children;
- listen to and value the views of others;
- know about similarities and differences between themselves and others; and
- challenge negative attitudes and stereotypes.

The governors and staff team know that it is never acceptable to:

- promote intolerance of other faiths, cultures and races;
- fail to challenge gender stereotypes and routinely segregate girls and boys;
- isolate children from their wider community;
- fail to challenge behaviours (whether of staff, children or parents) that are not in line with the fundamental British values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs;

and will ensure that the culture within Batford Nursery School eliminates such unacceptable attitudes and behaviours.

3. Democracy – making decisions together

Children should be given opportunities to develop enquiring minds in an atmosphere where questions are valued. Planning will incorporate children's interests and take their own views and ideas into consideration.

As part of the focus on self-confidence and self-awareness, as cited in Personal, Social and Emotional Development, staff will:

- Encourage children to see their role in the bigger picture and to know their views count;
- Both offer and support children in making choices;
- Teach children to value each other's view and values and to talk about their feelings, for example when they do or do not need help.
- Demonstrate democracy in action (when appropriate): for example, children sharing views on what the theme of their role play area could be with a show of hands.
- Support the decisions that children make and provide activities that involve turn-taking, sharing and working together collaboratively.
- Listening to others (see Batford Owls positive behaviour strategy below).

4. The rule of law – understanding rules matter

We have clear routines in the setting and there is a clear expectation for positive behaviour with clear rules and boundaries. We use the Batford Owls to support our agreed learning behaviours and ensure children understand the consequences of breaking these rules. The Batford Owls are:

- Look after things
- Be helpful
- Good thinking
- Good listening
- Be kind
- Do things by myself
- Keep trying
- Working together

Age-appropriate conflict resolution strategies are used to help children from a very young age to understand the impact their actions can have on other people -.

As part of the focus on managing feelings and behaviour, as cited in Personal, Social and Emotional Development, staff will:

- Ensure that children understand the consequences of their own actions, and learn to distinguish right from wrong.
- Encourage the children to work together to think of solutions to problems and conflict.
- Collaborate with children to create the rules and the codes of behaviour, for example, to agree the rules about tidying up and ensure that all children understand that the rules apply equally to everyone.

5. Individual Liberty – freedom for all

At Batford Nursery School, we foster a safe and supporting environment where pupils are actively encouraged to make choices and take risks. We want all children to develop a positive

sense of themselves and we support each child in developing self-esteem, confidence and feelings of competence.

We offer a range of experiences in learning and play, ensuring there is a balance between adult directed learning, adult-led play and child-initiated learning, whereby children are encouraged to navigate the learning environment independently and to choose their own activity.

As part of the focus on self-confidence & self-awareness and people & communities, as cited in Personal Social and Emotional development and Understanding the World, staff ensure that children:

- Can develop their independence and understand the meaning of free choice;
- Are given the opportunity to develop a sense of agency, learning to have control over their actions and understanding consequences;
- Have opportunities to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and to increase their confidence in their own abilities;
- Can explore the language of feelings and responsibility, reflect on their differences and understand individuals are free to have different opinions.

6. Mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs – treating others as you want to be treated

Children are treated with respect and learn to treat each other and staff with respect and this is reinforced through our Positive Behaviour Management Policy. As an inclusive setting, Batford Nursery School acknowledges that tolerance is achieved through pupils' knowledge and understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and we therefore seek to offer our children the opportunity to experience such diversity, e.g. by celebrating events from different countries and cultures.

Staff at Batford Nursery School will actively promote diverse attitudes and will not hesitate to challenge stereotypes; our discussions with children and parents will actively challenge opinions or behaviours that are contrary to British Values.

As part of the focus on people & communities, managing feelings & behaviour and making relationships' as cited in Personal Social and Emotional development and Understanding the World –

Governors and the senior leadership team will:

- Create an ethos of inclusivity and tolerance where views, faiths, cultures and races are valued and children are engaged with the wider community.

Staff will ensure children:

- Acquire a tolerance and appreciation of and respect for their own and other points of view and cultures;
- Know about similarities and differences between themselves and others and among families, faiths, communities, cultures and traditions and be able to share and discuss practices, celebrations and experiences;
- Have an opportunity to learn and appreciate other peoples' living experiences by celebrating diversity and promoting differences positively, including cultures, beliefs and backgrounds;
- Understand the importance of tolerant behaviours, such as sharing.