British Values Policy

Purpose and Aims

Manor Farm is committed to promoting the four Fundamental British Values:

- Democracy.
- The rule of law.
- Individual liberty.
- Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

These values were established within the Government's 2011 Prevent Strategy and contribute to children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development.

As a non-school Alternative Provision provider, Manor Farm embeds these values within its ethos, curriculum, relationships and everyday practice. We aim to develop children's understanding of their rights and responsibilities, independence, respect for others and positive sense of belonging within society.

We recognise that children and young people accessing our provision may experience communication, sensory, developmental or emotional difficulties. We therefore promote British Values through a trauma-informed, relationship-based and developmentally appropriate approach, ensuring every child has meaningful opportunities to participate.

Democracy

We believe every child and young person should have opportunities to express their views, make choices and feel listened to.

This is promoted through:

- Group discussions, voting and shared decision-making.
- Consulting children about activities, changes and plans.
- Opportunities to provide feedback through conversations and questionnaires.
- Encouraging children to contribute ideas, including voting to name new animals and engage in discussions and decisions relating to our setting.
- Supporting children to understand and respect different opinions.

Children are supported to communicate their views through their preferred communication methods, without pressure to participate verbally.

The Rule of Law

Children and young people are supported to understand the importance of rules, boundaries and laws in maintaining safety, fairness and respect within society.

This includes:

- Exploring why rules and laws exist and how they protect individuals and communities.
- Developing an understanding of personal safety, responsibilities and consequences.
- Discussing fairness, acceptable behaviour and respect for others.
- Learning about public services, including the police and emergency services.

We adopt a consistent, relational and therapeutic approach, recognising that behaviour communicates underlying emotional, sensory or developmental needs. Staff prioritise co-regulation, positive relationships and opportunities to understand and repair difficulties without shame or humiliation.

Individual Liberty

We encourage children and young people to develop independence, self-confidence, self-awareness and an understanding of their individual rights and freedoms.

This is promoted through:

- Providing meaningful choices about activities, learning and daily routines.
- Developing self-advocacy and the ability to communicate personal needs and preferences.
- Supporting understanding of consent, personal boundaries, privacy and online safety.
- Encouraging independence through animal care, cookery and outdoor learning.
- Helping children recognise when they feel uncomfortable, unsafe or need support.

We provide appropriate safeguarding boundaries while respecting each young person's autonomy, dignity and individual needs. Choices and expectations are adapted to reduce anxiety and support emotional safety.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is central to the ethos of Manor Farm. We promote an environment where children, families, staff and visitors are treated with dignity, kindness and consideration.

Children and young people are encouraged to:

- Demonstrate kindness, empathy and respect towards others.
- Recognise and value individual differences, including disability and neurodiversity.
- Respect personal space, boundaries and different communication styles.
- Develop positive relationships with peers, adults and the wider community.
- Show kindness and responsibility towards our animals and the natural environment.

Bullying, discrimination, harassment and prejudicial behaviour are not accepted and are addressed in accordance with our relevant policies.

Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs

We promote understanding and respect for different faiths, beliefs, cultures and traditions, recognising that some individuals may have no religious belief.

Children and young people are encouraged to explore cultural diversity through:

- Learning about different religious and cultural celebrations.
- Sharing family traditions and experiences where they wish.
- Exploring cultures through stories, music, food, art and practical activities.
- Discussing similarities and differences respectfully.
- Challenging stereotypes, prejudice and discriminatory attitudes.

Seasonal and international learning opportunities may include Diwali and traditional clay lamps (diyas), Catalonia's Tió de Nadal tradition and the history of Christmas trees.

Children and families are not expected to adopt or participate in beliefs or traditions that conflict with their own values or wishes.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Our promotion of British Values is underpinned by our commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion.

Manor Farm recognises its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 and Human Rights Act 1998. We promote respect for individual differences and challenge discrimination, prejudice and intolerance.

We make appropriate adjustments to communication, activities, resources and environments to support children with additional needs and enable meaningful participation.

We respect individual freedom of thought, conscience, religion and expression. We do not expect children or families to adopt particular political, religious or cultural beliefs.

Safeguarding and Prevent

Manor Farm recognises the importance of safeguarding children from radicalisation, extremism, exploitation and harmful influences. Please refer to our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Procedures.

Our approach to Prevent is incorporated within our wider safeguarding arrangements. We promote critical thinking, respect for different perspectives, individual rights and safe decision-making.

All staff are expected to recognise potential safeguarding concerns, report these promptly to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), Emma O'Loughlin, and follow the setting's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and relevant referral procedures.

Legal and Regulatory Compliance

As a non-school Alternative Provision provider, Manor Farm is committed to operating within relevant education, safeguarding, equality and child welfare legislation.

We recognise the following responsibilities:

- **Safeguarding:** We maintain appropriate safeguarding and child protection arrangements, including designated safeguarding responsibilities, staff suitability checks, reporting procedures and cooperation with relevant safeguarding partners.

- **Equality and Human Rights:** We have regard to our responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 and Human Rights Act 1998, promoting dignity, inclusion, reasonable adjustments where required and respect for individual rights.
- **Prevent:** We recognise the statutory Prevent framework and our responsibilities to respond to safeguarding concerns, while distinguishing between the direct statutory duty on specified authorities and the safeguarding expectations placed on our provision.
- **Commissioning and Oversight:** We work collaboratively with local authorities, commissioning schools and relevant professionals to support appropriate safeguarding, quality assurance and oversight of the children accessing our provision.

We use the Department for Education's *Non-school Alternative Provision: Voluntary National Standards* (August 2025) as a framework for reviewing and strengthening the quality, safeguarding and leadership of our provision. We recognise that these standards are voluntary rather than statutory, unless incorporated into relevant commissioning or contractual requirements.

Curriculum and Everyday Practice

British Values are embedded throughout our bespoke curriculum and daily experiences rather than taught solely as a standalone subject.

Opportunities arise through weekly themes, PSHE, group activities, shared decision-making, animal care, outdoor learning, community experiences, cookery, cultural celebrations and the development of communication, independence and positive relationships.

Staff are responsible for reinforcing these values through everyday interactions and planned learning opportunities.

Monitoring and Review

The promotion of British Values is monitored through curriculum planning, observations, learning records, staff discussions and feedback from children and families.

Manor Farm will:

- Review this policy annually and following relevant legislative or guidance changes.

- Ensure staff understand their responsibilities in promoting British Values and safeguarding.
- Monitor opportunities for British Values to be embedded throughout the curriculum.
- Maintain appropriate records of learning, safeguarding concerns and staff training.
- Consider feedback from children, families, commissioning professionals and relevant external agencies.

Manor Farm is committed to providing an inclusive, respectful and nurturing environment where every child is supported to develop independence, a positive sense of identity and belonging, and respect for themselves and others.

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if required.

Policy Last Reviewed: 10th November 2026

Next Review Due: 10th November 2027