



Aims, Values And Principles Policy

Aims

Our main aim at La Casita is to provide a safe, happy, caring, stimulating and secure environment in which each child can develop to their full potential, in a bilingual environment: Spanish-English.

1. La Casita achieves its aims by

- Striving to create a welcoming and co-operative environment in which relationships are based upon mutual support, respect and trust and where everyone feels valued as an individual member.
- Creating stimulating environments where children have access to a variety of experiences, making the most of 'holistic learning'.
- Immersing children in a bilingual environment (English-Spanish) giving them the opportunity to use both languages and learn about diversity, and respect for all cultures.
- Assisting all children to attain the highest standards according to their age and ability, regardless of their gender, race, religion and culture (see equal opportunities policy)
- Providing a role model to children and fostering their self esteem and confidence through encouragement and positive feedback, therefore empowering them and helping them to become increasingly independent learners.
- Offering a safe, well planned, imaginative, stimulating and challenging environment both indoors and outdoors, including trips and outings.
- Accepting that making mistakes is also a part of the learning curve and that it is acceptable for all of us to make them.
- Developing a culture of self confidence, leading to self-discipline and respect for other people, their beliefs and their values.
- Fostering positive social and emotional development of each child to enable them to grow personally as well as intellectually, and to feel valuable members of their community and society.
- Providing the children with teaching of high quality, and a broad and balanced curriculum following and fostering the principles of the EYFS.
- Providing a secure and enriching environment where learning can take place with enjoyment.
- Providing opportunities that encourage children to work co-operatively together.
- Providing practical experiences and activities that challenge the children to solve problems, ask questions and be independent thinkers.
- Developing the children's awareness and sensitivity towards living things and the world in which we live.
- Valuing children for themselves, so that they can develop and extend their own special strengths and interests.



- Promoting the personal, social, physical and cognitive development of all the children allowing them to grow as individuals at their own pace.
- Forming a close partnership with parents (and other carers), who we value as children's first and most enduring educators (see working with parent's policy)
- Performing a continuous cycle of observation, assessment and planning of the children's interests, their likes and dislikes and preferences. This allows us to individualise children's learning experiences.

2. Values

The values we aim to develop in our "children" are:

- A desire to do their best for themselves and others.
- A respect for others, their values, beliefs, aspirations and property
- An appreciation of the environment and a desire to safeguard it.
- A desire to play an active and responsible part in the community.

The values the staff will apply in developing, operating and maintaining standards at La Casita are the following:

- Promoting and respecting the individuality of all our children, irrespective of ethnicity, attainment, age, disability, gender or background.
- Caring for the emotional, physical and educational needs of each child as an individual.
- Showing equal regard and respect for each child, parent, colleague and member of the team.
- Approaching our work with a positive attitude and enthusiasm
- Keeping an interest on professional formation, by attending courses that might be beneficial to the day to day running of the setting.

3. Principles

- Young children learn best through first hand experiences, exploration, play and talk. We use a holistic approach to learning.
- Parents are children's primary educators so partnership work with them is essential.
- Effective education requires knowledgeable and skilled practitioners who understand children's developmental needs.
- Children's ethnic, faith and cultural heritage should be valued and respected.
- No child should be excluded or disadvantaged.
- Each child is unique and special, with individual ways of learning which should be valued and respected.
- Young children learn from everything that happens to them, they do not compartmentalise their learning.
- Observation and assessment are fundamental to the provision of interesting, relevant and effective planning for children's learning.
- Effective teaching builds on and develops children's interests, knowledge, understanding and skills.