

Policy Title and Number:

Language Policy

Policy Reference Number: JIC-057

**Legislation that informs this policy**

*Children's Act 1989*

*The Early Years Foundation Stage 2017*

*Childcare Act 2006*

*Special Education Needs and Disability Act 2005*

*Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000*

*Disability Discrimination Act 2006*

*Race Relations Act 1976*

*Sex Discrimination Act 1975*

*General Data Protection regulations 2018*

**This list is not exhaustive**

**Policy**

*Just Imagine Day Nursery – Canvey Island* is committed to valuing the languages and cultures of all children in each setting and of their families.

We endeavor to promote a positive attitude towards bi and multilingualism and, where reasonable, to provide opportunities for the development of the child's home language.

*Just Imagine Day Nursery – Canvey Island* understands that:

- young bilingual learners may need time to observe, tune into the English Language and try out things that are unfamiliar
- children need to have books and stories that have some link with different cultures, clear illustrations, repeated actions and language patterns and that offer visual support in the form of pictures, puppets and real objects

**Procedure**

To keep activities effective as learning opportunities, *Just Imagine Day Nursery – Canvey Island* recognizes the importance of repetition in the use of both key vocabulary and whole phrases.

*Just Imagine Day Nursery – Canvey Island* will work to the practice guidance for the *Early Years Foundation Stage*, which states:

***“Show particular awareness of, and sensitivity to, the needs of children learning English as an additional language, using their home language when appropriate and ensuring close teamwork between practitioners, parents and bilingual workers so that the children’s developing use of English and of other languages support each other.”***

Whenever reasonable, *Just Imagine Day Nursery – Canvey Island* supports children's learning of English as an additional language by:

- providing dual language books
- providing books and stories in other languages and about other cultures
- displaying welcome signs in different languages,
- providing setting literature in different languages

- staff learning key words in a child's home language
- finding ways of communicating with non-English speaking parents
- asking parents to make tapes of songs, stories, etc in their home language
- inviting parents to contribute words for displays in their language
- inviting parents to help with story-telling sessions.

*Just Imagine Day Nursery – Canvey Island* will work closely with families to ensure the needs of their child are met.

English speaking parents will be given feedback only in English. Native speaking staff must accept the safeguarding concerns raised by practitioner and parent/carer relationship. When and how necessary to translate, practitioner will provide parent with adequate feedback in their native language.

Only positive language will be used by practitioners, parents, carers, visitors and students and volunteers. It is necessary for positive role modeling of language.

*Just Imagine Day Nursery – Canvey Island* recognizes that language policy must cover verbal and non verbal communication. Therefore practitioners will be reminded to use friendly and open minded body language at all times.

**Date updated: April 2020**

**Date for review: April 2021**

Links to other policies: *Equal Opportunities and Promoting Race Equality Policy*