



House of Commons Nursery

This is a Nursery School in Westminster, London

Goal

To encourage a more inclusive curriculum that engages all children irrespective of gender.

Desired Impact

Gender equality to be engrained within the nursery culture, whereby staff are able to clearly recognise and respond with better tools to potential inequalities. The nursery hopes to become trailblazers for the rest of the organisation and to inspire other LEYF nurseries to make positive similar adaptations.



Work So Far

- Audit existing literature and identify changes where necessary
- Due consideration to gender equality as part of weekly activity planning
- Display posters across different rooms to raise awareness amongst staff (e.g. raising children without gender stereotypes poster)
- Increase exposure to wide range of successful female role models through books, posters etc.
- Change how children are complimented so as not to reinforce gender stereotypes

Measuring Changes

- Number of diverse and quality books available and children's engagement with these books
- Monitor planning to see whether activities have incorporated elements of gender equality
- Number of posters and other visual materials that reinforce gender equality/ strong female role models
- Monitor how feedback is given to children

"We are fortunate enough to have a wide range of strong female role models at the nursery, including staff and parents. Most of our activities are gender neutral and are designed in a way to appeal to all children regardless of gender. However, we do not currently have any male staff, which means that it is difficult to exhibit equal relationships between men and women".

Raising children without gender stereotypes

- Empower your child to value and respect their own body and other people's
- Seek out good male and female role models in your life and theirs
- Give them all the options for toys, clothes and colours
- Don't presume the sex of others
- Facilitate and encourage emotion including crying
- Swap round sex pronouns in children's books
- Model egalitarian relationships between men and women
- Encourage your child to have male and female friends
- Challenge prejudice and discuss with your child
- Teach children that domestic work is fun and important
- Teach children that DIY and practical work is fun and important
- Teach children that caring work is fun and important
- Never use 'girl' as an insult or threat
- Don't give a little girl a compliment you would not give to a boy
- Model dealing with conflict in ways other than violence or aggression
- Do not glamourise weapons or violence in toys, clothing, or games
- Avoid heavily gendered children's TV
- Seek out female tradespeople and let your child watch them work
- Facilitate and encourage physical play and expression
- Watch women in sport, including team sports