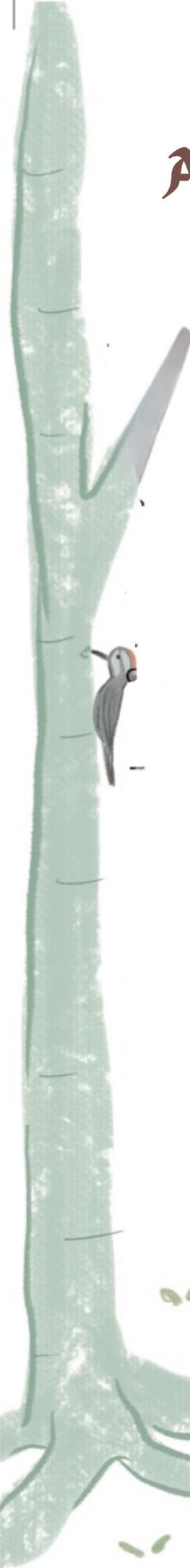


# Valued

A journey through the important values at  
Lucky Beans Childcare

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**A**fter working closely with all of our managers here at Lucky Beans, we were sparked with an idea... There were a clear, core set of values that were a part of our philosophy and ethos at Lucky Beans Childcare. These values help us to ensure our children develop into confident, capable, responsible young individuals who are prepared for their futures, wherever life takes them! So, we wrote them all down and decided to write a story about how these values change the lives of our children.

We noticed that these values were present across the community we had created through Lucky Beans. Our children showed confidence, curiosity, adventurousness, creativity, compassion, a love of wellness, and respect for themselves and others.





These values were truly helping our children to grow and develop in wonderful ways alongside their peers.

We pride ourselves in ensuring that we create a safe space and nurturing community through each of the values shared within this storybook. In turn, each and every child within our care feels truly valued - a feeling that will instil lifelong confidence that shines from within.

*- A message from Lucky Beans' Founder,  
Dr. Caroline Curtis*

There once was an adventurous little boy who loved to wander through the forest every morning on his way to nursery.

He was sometimes told off for being unkind to his friends or teachers.

One day whilst walking along, he was startled by a wise old woman.

“Young boy” the old woman said. “You are meant to be at nursery! What are you doing wandering through the forest?”



“I have no friends to walk with” replied the boy, “and I like to walk amongst the trees. Nature is wonderful company.”

The wise old woman shook her head and from her pocket produced a pouch. “Take this” she said to the mischievous little boy.

The little boy eagerly opened the pouch to find a small bean.

“Plant it” said the old woman, “and then we will give it some water.”



The boy dug a small hole with his hands and buried the bean. The old woman cupped her hands full of water from the stream nearby and watered the bean. With a smile, she waved goodbye and hobbled away into the woodland.

Instantly and as if by magic, the bean grew and grew!



“Hello,” the bean said once he had reached the size of the little boy himself. “My name is Lucky.”

Lucky the bean gently reached for the bewildered little boy’s hand. “I am your friend, and I am here to teach you about something called values.”

“Values?” The little boy was very confused by the talking bean.

“Values help us to be kind to others at nursery and in the world” Lucky the bean replied.



“Our first value is curiosity. When we are curious about something, the world around us becomes magical. Look, over here!” Lucky the Bean pointed to a chrysalis that was slowly unravelling.

“What will that become?” The bean asked the little boy.

“I don’t know, but I do want to know...” he replied.

“That is curiosity” said the Bean.



“Ah!” Exclaimed the boy. “There is something on my foot,  
get it off!”

“Take a deep breath” said the bean. “This is a ladybird.  
They are harmless, you can hold her if you like.”

“I’m scared, I don’t like bugs” said the boy.

“Choosing to be brave in order to experience something  
new is being adventurous! This is another important value.  
Try holding her just for a moment.”





The little boy took hold of the lady bird and smiled. It was not scary! "Look at her beautiful wings, Lucky! Oh how I wish I could colour or paint this beautiful polka-dot pattern right now."

"That is wonderful, seeing the beauty in nature can make us feel more creative" replied the bean.

"Sometimes when I draw I am very messy, though" the boy said.

"Creativity is not about being perfect," the bean replied.  
"It is about joy, a happy feeling."



The boy and the bean walked further through the forest together. The boy was smiling ear to ear, happy to have a friend. As they crossed a stream, the boy noticed a piece of litter that had washed up onto the bank. He kicked it.

“Excuse me,” said Lucky the bean “we must not kick litter.”

“Why?” said the boy folding his arms. He continued to kick the litter.

“Little boy,” Lucky said. “You must learn the value of respect. When an adult tells you to stop, you must use both of your ears to listen. This is how we keep you safe.”

The boy became quiet and nodded. He stopped kicking.





“Now,” said the Bean. “It is time to teach you the very important value of compassion.”

“What is compassion?” said the boy.

“Compassion is being kind to others, and being kind to our world around us” Lucky the bean replied. “We have to protect our planet by keeping it clean, it is our home.”

“So what can we do?” said the boy.

“Start by picking up any litter you see and recycling it. Recycling means old things we once used get used by new people! It helps keep our planet happy and healthy.

 “Wonderful,” said the boy.



“Little boy,” said the bean. “Do you have trouble making friends at nursery?”

“Yes,” said the little boy, “I feel shy to speak to the children in my nursery class.”

“It is important to learn the value of confidence,” said Lucky the bean. “Remember that you are loved, valued and perfect just as you are.”

“Thank you” said the boy.



“Little boy, it is almost time for me to go,” said the Bean.  
“Before I go, have a look at this bush next to us.”

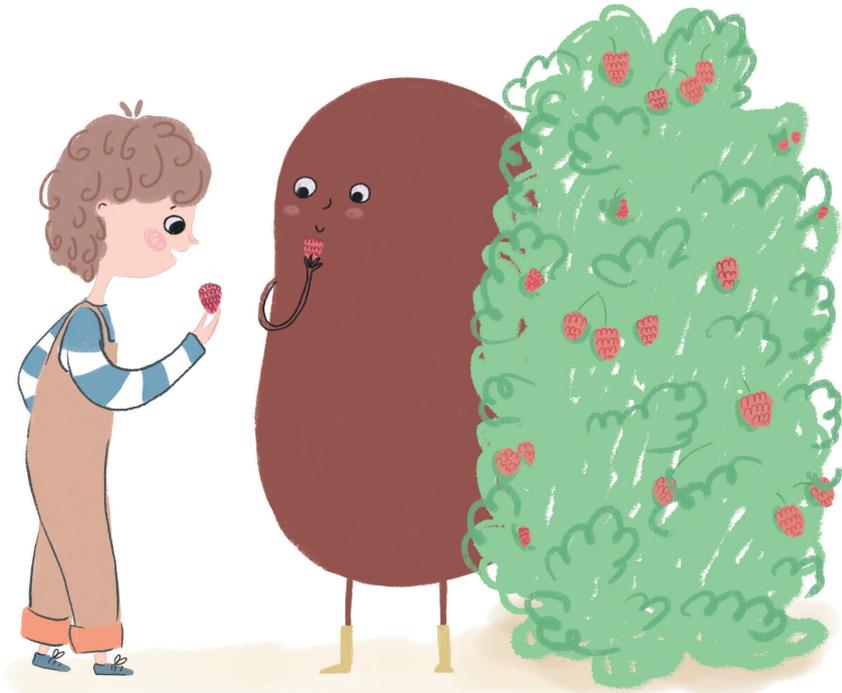
The boy looked to the ripe raspberry bush jewelled with red berries.



“Go ahead and pick one to try,” said the bean.

“It is so delicious” said the boy, “just like sweets!”

“This, little boy, is the value of health. It is important to eat lots of fruits and vegetables in order to grow big. Eating healthy foods will also give you the energy to play, jump, run and explore outside.”



“Wow!” said the boy, cheeks stained from the red berries.  
“I have learned so much from you.”

“We have reached your nursery now,” said the Bean, letting go of the little boy’s hand. “It is time to say goodbye. Remember to use these values during your time at nursery and at home. You have an exciting adventure awaiting ahead of you.”

The boy nodded while the bean continued, “You see, adding values to our lives is much like the moment you added water to me. It helped me to grow, and these values will help you to grow too.”

“Thank you,” said the boy.

“You are most welcome” said the Bean, as the little boy raced towards nursery smiling from ear to ear.





# The Story of Lucky Beans Childcare

**D**r. Caroline Curtis founded the Lucky Beans family in September in 2016 when she started her childminding business from home. Since then, Lucky Beans Childcare has had nothing but happy parents and a record of helping children develop operating a forest school ethos within our settings. This means the focus of the child care is more on learning outdoors and developing children's curiosity. As a positive psychologist, Dr. Caroline Curtis also places a lot of emphasis on children personal and emotional development.

From the outset, Caroline certainly had a clear vision of providing excellent care, positive parenting and strengths-based methods for nurturing children and enabling them to thrive, gain life-skills and be happy.

Due to the success over the past 5 years and the growing demand from parents for places at Lucky Beans Balham Childminding, she was able to grow the business into what it is today! Lucky Beans now has 7 wonderful nurseries in southwest London.





CURIOSITY  
BEING ADVENTUROUS  
CREATIVITY  
RESPECT  
COMPASSION  
CONFIDENCE  
WELLNESS



"The aim of education  
is not knowledge or facts but values."

Follow the journey of a young boy  
and Lucky the Bean through the  
forest to learn about all of the  
wonderful values we teach at Lucky  
Beans Childcare!

