

THIS WEEK'S TOPIC IS

DEVELOPING CHILDREN'S EMPATHY



What is empathy?

- Empathy is the ability to emotionally understand what other people feel and see things from their point of view.
- Empathy allows you to build social connections with others. By understanding what people are thinking and feeling, you are able to respond appropriately in social situations.

Helping young children

- Ensure your children know their own emotions. Children from the age of 2 or 3 years may be able to start to recognise simple feelings and name them.
- Encourage your children to show concern when others are upset and offer some form of comfort. Model comforting others and talking about feelings.
- Facilitate lots of social interactions and support your child to build relationships.



Helping older children

- Children in KS2 are much more likely to be able to understand more complex emotions such as having mixed feelings about something. Discuss these clashing emotions with them as well as people's motivations for acting in a certain way.
- Discuss fairness and justice to develop empathy for those who have been upset or wronged.

The Responsible Behaviour Curriculum

