



Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural Development (SMSC)

This policy has been reviewed by the School.

Headteacher: John Myers

Date: 15th February 2024

Mission Statement

This policy is carried out within the context and spirit of the school's vision for excellence. It supports and reinforces the aims of All Saints Primary School, valuing all children equally and as individuals. All staff work together to create a happy, challenging, stimulating and caring environment in which children can enjoy their time at school and celebrate their achievements.

The school strives to build a community which encourages all its members to develop a healthy respect for one another. In addition, we provide a happy, stimulating and caring environment where there are opportunities, encouragement and stimuli to develop each child to his/her full potential.

This policy relates to the whole life of the school and its role in promoting spiritual, moral, social and cultural development (SMSC) during lessons, in collective worship, at lunch time, playtime and through extra-curricular activities.

Spiritual Development

Aim

Spiritual development relates to the beliefs, feelings and emotions through which children acquire worthwhile insights into their own lives. All areas of the curriculum may contribute to spiritual development. Although education and spiritual development are not synonymous, school experiences can make a significant contribution to spiritual development.

Objectives

At All Saints the children will be provided with opportunities to develop their spiritual understanding by experiencing a curriculum which will:

- Develop their self-esteem, self-knowledge and self-belief.

- Allow them to develop a range of personal values and beliefs based on a sense of curiosity and respect towards their own and the beliefs of others.
- Explore the spiritual values of others through stories, drama, music, art and religious education, to name a few.
- Allow them to express themselves in a variety of ways and give them time to reflect on their own experiences.
- Allow them to understand, express, use and control feelings and emotions as well as encouraging empathy in terms of relationships with others.

In Practice at All Saints School this is delivered through:

- A Religious Education programme which develops self-esteem and knowledge and an ability to reflect on and develop individuals' own spiritual values; explores the Christian faith and other religions and provides opportunities to compare faiths; Develops an insight into questions of life, death and change; provides children with opportunities to respond to situations of suffering and hardship and express doubt, fears and to pose questions.
- A PSHE programme (Jigsaw) which utilises teaching to involve all years in opportunities for themed discussion, consideration of a variety of scenarios and drama activities e.g. role play, conscience alley etc. to encourage learning, examine their own feelings, likes and dislikes, and compare these with others; develop personal beliefs and values and respect for others and develop an awareness of core values from an early age.
- An exciting and varied curriculum which aims to develop a sense of wonder, awe, mystery and joy; allows time to listen, reflect and puzzle.
- A worship cycle which addresses the spiritual aspect, including time for quiet and reflection – using past and present role models from the world and encouraging community participation.
- Educational enrichment trips and visiting speakers provide children with a range of experiences, which may promote a sense of awe and wonder about the world.
- A reflective approach to learning through formative assessment techniques – pupils having ownership and understanding of where they are, where they need to get to and how they are to do it.
- A rewards system developing pupil self-esteem through certificates e.g. Mountain Mover, Attendance, Maths/English Star of the Term, Start of the Term etc.
- Prayer spaces organised by members of Ladygrove church to encourage children to express their thoughts, ideas and concerns.
- Displays of children's work bring a sense of pride in the work they produce and therefore a sense of expressing the talents of the individual.
- The use of school council and eco-council to involve pupils in the life of the school.

Moral Development

Aim

Moral development refers to the children's knowledge, understanding, intentions, attitudes and behaviour in relation to what is right and wrong. The school has a well-established Behaviour for Learning Policy and staff promote a supportive and consistent approach to the management of challenging behaviour.

Objectives of the code of conduct are to promote the concept of excellent behaviour by being:-

- Kind and considerate
- Helpful to others and listening to what they have to say
- Quiet around the school, holding only appropriate conversations when necessary
- Committed to school and classroom rules
- Committed to a healthy, safe and environmentally friendly school
- Committed to looking neat, clean and tidy with a pride in the school uniform
- Equipped and ready for learning

In practice – at All Saints School this is delivered through:

- Clear models of good behaviour from staff and pupils and reinforcement of school and classroom rules both inside and outside of lessons.
- Involvement in drawing up a class charter and developing an understanding of the need for rules and sanctions.
- Class Charters are displayed in all classrooms and throughout the school which are referred to regularly and rewards and consequences are understood by all.
- Provision of Pupil Mediators from Y5 and Y6 to give pupil support in EYFS/KS1 that is focused on conflict resolution and restorative justice.
- Moral issues discussed, where and when appropriate, across the school community;
- PSHE programme (Jigsaw).
- Worship themes on moral issues, developed and reinforced during lesson time.
- Fund raising activities for nominated charities, in addition to national charity events which give rise to discussion around morality.
- Opportunities to demonstrate responsibility and to develop early leadership skills and roles, e.g. School council, Eco-council, House Captains, Mediators, Worship monitors.
- Supervised and filtered access to the Internet together with regular teaching focused on the dangers of the internet and related issues. Parents are also offered training opportunities regarding online safety.
- Local, national and global incidents, in addition to existing programmes of study, give an opportunity for teaching about morality and behaviour and demonstrates the flexibility of our teaching programme.

Social Development

Aim

Social development relates to the skills and personal qualities necessary for individuals to live and function effectively in society.

Objectives

Children will be encouraged to:

- Maintain and develop relationships within the school, working successfully with other pupils and adults in the school community.
- Respond to the opportunities being offered, to show initiative and to take responsibility for their own learning in the school community.

- Gain an understanding of the wider society through their family and carers, the school, local and wider communities.
- Actively participate in the school community and beyond into the wider community.

In practice - at All Saints School we provide opportunities for pupils to:

- Interact with all staff in school and with visitors and members of the wider community in an appropriate and outstanding manner.
- Be part of teams and clubs across the school: School council, Eco-council, House Captains, Sports teams and a variety of other clubs including Football teams, Choir and Dance Club.
- Celebrate personal achievements and the successes of others.
- Elected school council representatives to feedback views, ideas and concerns to their peers and also to the senior leadership team when appropriate.
- Experience, in programmes of study, the development of skills in speaking, listening and key reflective work where children have the ability to learn both with teacher interaction and support, but increasingly with more independence.
- Develop their social skills and awareness through the PSHE programme (Jigsaw).
- Participate in the wider community through experiences such as the moon buggy project, Junior Citizens, IMPS, school fairs and inter-school competitions.

Cultural Development

Aim

Cultural development refers to pupils increasing understanding and response to those elements, which give societies and groups their unique character. The school will promote British Values and the cultural traditions of our own area and the ethnic and cultural diversity of the world.

Objectives

Children will be encouraged to:

- Appreciate, understand and respect aspects of their own and other cultural environments in terms of beliefs, values, attitudes, customs, knowledge and skills.
- Gain a broader understanding of democracy, individual liberty, tolerance, rule of law, mutual respect (British Values).
- Recognise that similarities and differences may exist between different societies and groups.
- Experience a range of cultural activities in terms of literature, music, technology, art and design, dance, drama, sport and other media.
- Broaden, develop and enrich their interests and insights through interacting with opportunities the school and the wider community provides.

In Practice at All Saints we encourage:

- Educational visits to places of interest such as: libraries; museums; galleries; theatres; places of worship and other establishments in order to better understand other cultures and ways of life.
- Active participation in the PSHE programme (Jigsaw) and also in Modern Foreign Languages lessons.
- Collective worship and assemblies – a themed approach that gives rise to many opportunities to explore SMSC and cultural diversity. Other events are also celebrated with drama, art, dance and presentations along with specific services such as Remembrance, annual carol services and celebrations of Easter, Harvest and other festivals e.g. Divali, Chinese New Year.
- Project work across the school which explores a range of multi-cultural themes through literature, art, music, dance, religious education and worship and opportunities to engage with artists, musicians, dancers, story-tellers and religious representatives who visit the school to provide workshops etc.
- Access to the internet in order to explore cultures and activities as extension learning.
- Performances to an audience or public speaking in drama productions and religious festivals.
- Participation in school and community events such as school fairs, fund-raising events and charitable activities.

Links with the wider community

All Saints C of E (A) Primary School has close links to the Ladygrove and All Saints Churches-

Pupils commit themselves readily to activities such as fund raising for a variety of charities, supporting the All Saints School Association (ASSA) fundraising events, collecting harvest gifts for those in need and participating in the annual service of Remembrance. These links foster an attitude of care and concern in pupils.

A wide range of both volunteers and professionals are welcomed into the school from parent/family helpers and readers, to sports coaches, members of the emergency services and caring professions such as the RSPCA and Dog Trust.

The school allows the local community to use its grounds and facilities outside of school hours, provides access to wrap-around childcare and provides a place of worship for the community church.

Resources

The school provides a range of resources expressing the diversity of cultures in our school and wider community. Literacy texts, art stimuli, music, religious artefacts and the teaching of a foreign language reflect the school's aims of giving access to cultural diversity in the teaching of the curriculum. Residential trips, special focus days, educational visits and specialist visitors offer particular opportunities for the aims of SMSC aims to be pursued.

Role of Senior Leaders and Key Staff (PSHE Coordinator)

- To undertake audits and observations for the development of SMSC provision.
- To promote and facilitate enrichment events in school.
- To organise assembly themes for the termly focus linked to Jigsaw.
- To promote pupil “voice” opportunities in order to maximise pupil participation.
- To compile and update a portfolio (photographs and programmes) to record the school’s support for S.M.S.C.
- To encourage staff and pupils to be involved in enrichment activities which are spiritually, morally, socially and culturally engaging both inside and outside the classroom/school.

Expectations of stakeholders

All stakeholders are expected to support and be engaged in the implementation of this policy through every engagement that they have with each other; in lesson time, worship and in the course of daily interactions (with each other) in their classes and outside classrooms to promote and celebrate the equality and diversity of the school community.