Wolston St Margaret's
C of E Primary School

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development Policy.

In our school, our Christian vision shapes all that we do:
Learning, Believing and Achieving together to "Let your Light Shine" Matthew 5:16.

The route to our vision is guided by our
Christian values of ***Honesty, Love, Courage and Community.***

We are stimulated and inspired to flourish by the guiding words of Jesus in Matthew 5:16 "Let your Light Shine". He explained that no one lights a lamp just to hide it under a basket. A lamp is meant to be placed on a stand to give light to everything around it. Whether you're timid or outgoing, you're called to be a light to the people around you. Our vision encourages children and adults of all faiths and those of no faith to live, grow and learn together by using the words from Matthew to show the world how wonderful they are.

Introduction

At St Margaret's C of E Primary School, we want our pupils to be successful, confident learners and responsible citizens. Guided by our Christian vision and values, we are committed to providing an environment that:

- Enables children to learn and develop to their full potential
- Ensures respect, forgiveness, empathy for others and acceptance of differences
- Encourages independence, resilience, cooperation and collaborative working
- Ensures pupils develop self-discipline and take responsibility for their actions.

In order to facilitate and achieve this, we will provide a curriculum that:

- Engages, excites is meaningful and rigorous
- Stimulates questioning and challenge
- Is aspirational, creative, flexible and responsive
- Prioritises spiritual, moral, social, cultural intellectual and physical development
- Educates citizens for today and beyond

We recognise the importance of the academic, personal development and well-being of every child in our school. This includes recognising the importance of providing a range of opportunities for our pupils to respond to, that supports their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development with an understanding and an overview of teaching the Equality Act (2010) and including global education themes.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development (SMSC)

(NB whilst each dimension is outlined separately there is a great deal of overlap between the four areas).

Spiritual development

Spiritual development is concerned with developing the non-material aspects of life, focusing on personal insight, values, meaning and purpose. Beliefs that help provide perspective on life, they may be rooted in a religion, but equally may not. Children explore the fundamental British Value of exploring and respecting the values and beliefs of others.

The Spiritual development of all our children is addressed through the Christian vision and values of the school. As a church school we address spiritual development through prayer, Christian worship celebration of Christian festivals and learning about other faiths, reading and reflection on the Bible within Collective Worship, RE and across the wider curriculum.

We are committed to:

- Celebrating the religious and non-religious beliefs and values that our pupils bring as part of their family/culture heritage and to building an awareness of and respect for others' spiritual and religious beliefs
- Fostering common human values and building spiritual capacities to promote self-worth
- Self-esteem and valuing others
- Helping our pupils to come to an understanding of themselves as unique individuals and encouraging them to reflect on "big questions"
- Developing our pupils' curiosity, imagination, creativity and promoting a lifelong love of learning.

Moral development

Moral development is about knowing what is right and wrong and acting on it accordingly. Moral development is about personal and societal values, understanding the reasons for them and airing and understanding disagreements. This is embedded throughout the school community.

We are committed to:

- Be truthful and honest
- Respect the rights and property of others, their opinions and customs, even when they are different from our own
- Help others
- Solve differences of opinion in non-violent ways using the principles of restorative practice.

Social development

Social development shows pupils working together effectively, relating well to adults and participating in the local community. It also includes the fundamental British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

We are committed to:

- Fostering the skill and qualities of team building through the development of self-confidence, co-operation, sensitivity to others, reliability, initiative and understanding
- Providing an environment where pupils can take responsibility for themselves and others in school and the wider society
- Teaching the Equalities Act throughout our curriculum

Cultural development

Cultural development shows pupils understanding and feeling comfortable in a variety of cultures and experiencing a range of cultural activities (art, theatre, travel, concerts). Children develop the fundamental British Value of exploring, understanding and tolerance regarding the diversity of cultural traditions and beliefs of others.

We value and celebrate the cultural diversity of our school, our society and the world by:

- Promoting an appreciation of our own cultural tradition/s and encouraging an appreciation of other peoples' cultural traditions
- Celebrating the richness of culture and tradition.
- Weaving global education themes through our curriculum.

Teaching and Learning in SMSC at Wolston St Margaret's C of E Primary.

In the light of this we will ensure that the SMSC development of our pupils is promoted across the curriculum and in the wider life of the school by:

- Recognising the importance of our collective worship programme in supporting and encouraging SMSC development, including teaching the Equalities Act 2010 and aspects of global education.
- Planning and provision for introducing and teaching aspects of SMSC through Collective Worship using a range of resources, for example the PSHE programme, weekly "Picture news" and "No Outsiders"
- Providing a long term overview for covering all aspects of SMSC and related areas, particularly Relationships, Health and Sex education. This is under constant review so that we can take into

account our rapidly changing world and learning opportunities which arise under this heading

- Providing an appropriate range of effective teaching and learning resources and strategies as above that enable pupils to reflect on and respond to the issues of SMSC importance and concern
- Encouraging teachers to plan for and respond to opportunities to develop SMSC development and to ensure curriculum leaders have evidence of provision for SMSC education in their subject maintain a positive climate in school in which all are valued and respected and expected to make a positive contribution
- Reviewing the effectiveness and impact of our policy and practice as part of our cycle of school improvement, recognising that the progress of all the pupils to a large extent can be seen in the 'ethos' within school.
- Ensuring children are given opportunity to reflect on their experiences to continue to create opportunities for children to take responsibilities that are appropriate for their maturity and experience
- Developing a consistent approach in the way the school deals with all matters that reflect the aims of the policy be they administrative, personnel, financial, operational or strategic.
- Including all members of the school family within the policy, children, all adults, parents and governors

British Values - Promoting British Values

Wolston St Margaret's C of E Primary School is very much committed to serving our community and recognises the multi- cultural, multi faith and ever-changing nature of our world in which we live. We also understand the vital role we have in ensuring that groups or individuals within the school, are not subjected to intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to unduly, or illegally, influence them.

Wolston St Margaret's also follows equal opportunities guidance which guarantees that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status, or similar. Our staff are dedicated in preparing students for their adult life beyond the formal examined curriculum, and ensuring that we promote and reinforce British Values to all our students.

We strive to promote and secure British values throughout our curriculum and ethos. This statement demonstrates our commitment not only to promoting British Values, but also celebrating and embracing them. The DfE have emphasised the need to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British Values of:

- Democracy
- Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Monitoring Processes

Responsibility for monitoring and evaluating the effects of this policy, including the standards of children's work and the quality of teaching is the responsibility of the RE & PSHE subject leader and SLT.

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years.

Monitored by:
Full Governing Body

Date adopted:
June 2025
Next review:
June 2027
Review Cycle:
2 years