

Mountfields Lodge Primary School



SMSC Policy (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural)

Aim High, Reach for the Sky

Policy for Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development (SMSC)

At Mountfields Lodge we recognise that the personal development of pupils, spiritually, morally, socially and culturally, plays a significant part in their ability to learn and achieve. We therefore aim to provide an education that provides pupils with opportunities to explore and develop their own values and beliefs, spiritual awareness, high standards of personal behaviour, a positive, caring attitude towards other people, an understanding of their social and cultural traditions and an appreciation of the diversity and richness of the cultures in the United Kingdom and the wider world.

This policy outlines the purpose, nature and management of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education within our school.

The ethos of the school, encompassing all that we stand for, is reflected both in the school's Mission Statement and its Code of Conduct...

*Our school's Mission Statement is 'Aim High, Reach the Sky'
Our school's Code of Conduct is 'A, B, C – Accept, Behave and Care'*

... and all that we do throughout each day.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's 'Cohesion Community and the Promotion of British Values' policy.

Policy Aim:

- To ensure that everyone connected with the school is aware of our aims, values and ethos.
- To ensure a consistent approach to the development of SMSC understanding throughout the curriculum and the general life of the school.
- To ensure that a pupil's education is set within a context that is meaningful and appropriate to their age, aptitude and background.
- To ensure that pupils know what is expected of them and why.
- To give each pupil a range of opportunities to reflect upon and discuss their beliefs, feelings and responses to personal experience.
- To enable pupils to develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.
- To enable pupils to begin to develop an understanding of their social and cultural environment, and an appreciation of the many cultures that enrich our society.
- To give each pupil the opportunity to explore social and moral issues, and develop a sense of social and moral responsibility

Spiritual Development:

Explore beliefs and experience; respect faiths, feelings and values; enjoy learning about oneself, others and the surrounding world; use imagination and creativity; reflect.

As a school we aim to provide learning opportunities that will enable pupils to:

- Sustain their self-esteem in their learning experience.
- Develop their capacity for critical and independent thought.
- Develop their emotional literacy and enable them to express their feelings
- Experience moments of stillness and reflection.
- Discuss their beliefs, feelings, values and responses to personal experiences.
- Form and maintain worthwhile and satisfying relationships.
- Reflect on, consider and celebrate the wonders and mysteries of life.

Moral Development:

Recognise right and wrong; respect the law; understand consequences; investigate moral and ethical issues; offer reasoned views.

As a school we aim to provide learning opportunities that will enable pupils to:

- Recognise the unique value of each individual.
- Listen and respond appropriately to the views of others.
- Gain the confidence to cope with setbacks and learn from mistakes.
- Take initiative and act responsibly with consideration for others.
- Distinguish between right and wrong.
- Show respect for the environment.
- Make informed and independent judgments.

Social Development:

Investigate and moral issues; appreciate diverse viewpoints; participate, volunteer and cooperate; resolve conflict; engage with the 'British values' of democracy, the rule of law, liberty, respect and tolerance

As a school we aim to promote opportunities that will enable pupils to:

- Develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.
- Learn about service in the school and wider community.
- Begin to understand social justice and a concern for the disadvantaged.
- Understand their responsibility to the communities to which they belong.
- Develop their economic wellbeing to enable them to take a responsible role in society.
- Enable them to become lifelong learners.

Cultural Development:

Appreciate cultural influences; appreciate the role of Britain's parliamentary system; participate in culture opportunities; understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity.

As a school we aim to promote opportunities that will enable pupils to:

- Recognise the value and richness of cultural diversity in Britain.
- Recognise Christianity as the primary faith of our country and its place as a world-wide faith.
- Recognise other world-wide faiths and their contribution to our society.
- Develop an understanding of their social and cultural environment.
- Develop an understanding of Britain's local, national, European, Commonwealth and

Global dimensions.

- Recognise and develop understanding of other world faiths.

Implementation:

The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all who work and volunteer within the school. It will be driven by the head teacher and the senior staff but will be promoted and embedded by all.

Much of this policy's implementation will be evident to the children through the ethos our school has created; however there are many opportunities within the curriculum and through the wider day-to-day learning that will enable specific focus on SMSC.

e.g.

- Religious Education
- Collective Worship
- The school's curriculum
- Teachers and support staff as role models
- Discussing and negotiating the ethos and values of the school
- Visits, visitors, clubs, residentials and extra-curricular activities.

Children will be taught to:

- Distinguish between right and wrong.
- Articulate their own attitudes and values.
- Take responsibilities for their own action.
- Recognise the moral dimension to situations.
- Understand the long and short-term consequences of their actions for themselves and others.
- Develop a set of socially acceptable values and moral framework to support them in making good life choices.
- Recognise that their values and attitudes may have to change with age and experience.
- Behave consistently in accordance with their principles.

All children, regardless of ability, gender or social background will receive the same teaching with each of their views being taken into account.

Assessment:

An ongoing Assessment of the Spiritual and Moral development of a child will initially be the responsibility of the class teacher and thereafter by any member of staff who comes into regular contact with the child.

Senior Staff and Governors will be involved in monitoring the ethos established and the opportunities provided to enhance the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.