

## Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development

### Rationale

The curriculum provides opportunities to promote our pupils' Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development. We recognise the development of SMSC should be promoted not only through all the subjects offered within our curriculum, but also through the ethos of the school. The promotion of SMSC development is considered to be 'whole school', which is measurable by:

- 'hard' outcomes (explicit, planned opportunities to promote pupils development are provided in RE and PHSCE),
- 'soft' outcomes (through school ethos, effective relationships throughout the school, collective worship, accessing local amenities, community participation such as pop up shops and other enterprise activities, other curriculum activities such as Theme Days).

### The aims of our SMSC provision are to ensure all pupils have opportunities to:

- Access an environment in which pupils' SMSC development can flourish and diversity is welcomed.
- Access an environment which has identified key values and principles on which our school and community life is based.
- Access an environment which welcomes, aids, and develops a sense of pride in the achievements of all who work and learn within the school.
- Build positive relationships between adults and children offering respect for all contributions.
- Use pupils imagination and creativity to help develop curiosity in their learning.
- Further develop and apply pupils social skills through a range of planned activities.
- Prepare for their roles as members of a multicultural community and develop the knowledge and skills to be able to challenge extremist arguments.
- Acquire an understanding of what is right and wrong within their school life and life outside school.
- Further develop an understanding of the options and challenges facing them as they move through the school and into adult life.
- Overcome barriers to their learning.
- Develop an ability to experience and respond positively to a range of artistic, sporting and other cultural opportunities provided by the school, for example developing an appreciation of theatre, music and literature.
- Develop the skills and attitudes to enable them to participate fully and positively in democratic, modern Britain.

### Delivery:

#### **Spiritual development: Sense of 'self'** (Spiritual development):

This involves promoting a sense of self as unique individuals with self-worth; to develop their sense of curiosity, imagination, feelings and emotions, attitudes and beliefs, creativity, awe and wonder, and their aesthetic responses to life and learning.

#### **Our aims of Spiritual Development will encourage pupils to develop their abilities to:**

- Develop their personality and sense of identity
- Show respect for themselves and others
- Value relationships, developing a sense of belonging and empathy
- Understand their own beliefs, beliefs of others and how these can develop and change
- Understand feelings and emotions, recognise the impact of these in order to reflect and to learn
- Appreciate a sense of wonder and mystery in the world in which we live
- Listen, be still and be mindful
- To learn from this reflection

- Develop their imagination to acquire a curiosity about life
- Further their personal views on issues which are important to them
- Show persistence in seeking to live out their own aims, values, principles and beliefs

**Moral Development: Focus - Impact on others** (Moral development):

We are committed to empowering our pupils to further develop their sense of understanding of what is right and wrong and act upon it accordingly by taking personal responsibility for their actions as best as their cognitive skills allow them. This is the standpoint from which to consider the behaviour of others in school and society in general. The PHSCE curriculum provides our pupils with the appropriate guidance to act respectfully and considerately towards others through appropriate guidance to make informed and responsible choices. For the pupils with moderate or severe learning difficulties, this is differentiated and taught through example using positive reinforcement throughout their school career.

**Our aims of Moral development will encourage pupils to further their abilities to:**

- Use all one's senses
- Express creativity and imagination
- Take responsibility for their own actions
- Foster a sense of respect for the integrity of each person
- Respect the rights and property of others
- Acquire relevant skills and attitudes, such as decision making and self-control
- Consider what is of value, including issues of right and wrong
- Understand ideas, such as justice, honesty, truth and keeping promises
- Act considerately towards each other
- Take responsibility for their own actions
- Exercise self-discipline
- Have high expectations
- Further promote positive attitudes
- Conform to rules for the good of all

**Social Development: Focus –Social Skills** (Social development):

We aim to develop pupils' social development through the promotion of a sense of belonging and developing social interaction and communication skills that may be limited due to the core difficulties associated with autism. Providing an environment where pupils are empowered to take responsibility for themselves and others encourages them to further develop their initiative and independence. Our aim is to enable our pupils to care and act responsibly towards each other, respect others views and resolve difficulties and differences.

**Our aims of Social Development will encourage pupils to further develop their abilities to:**

- Identify, understand and share emotions
- Self-regulate their emotions
- Understand the importance of core values and qualities which are valued in our society
- Value diversity and equality, respecting social differences and similarities
- Understand citizenship and to experience being part of a caring community
- Consider the importance of rights and responsibilities
- Show initiative and develop an understanding of living in a community
- Relate to others, show sensitivity to the needs and feelings of others
- Work successfully as a member of a team or group interacting purposefully with others
- Share views and opinions with others
- Resolve difficulties and differences
- Reflect upon their contribution to a team, group, and community
- Show respect for people, living things, property and the environment
- Realise there are things each person can do well

### **Cultural Development: Focus – Appreciation & Respect** (Cultural Development):

We recognise that Cultural Development is about furthering an awareness of childrens' beliefs, values and customs, those of the family, those within their local community and those of other societies and groups. We help to develop the pupils' cultural awareness through planned extra curricula activities where we are able to celebrate a richness of culture and tradition. This promotes both an appreciation of our own cultural traditions and encourages an appreciation of other peoples' cultural traditions in the local, national and global communities.

#### **Our aims of Cultural Development will encourage pupils to further develop their abilities to:**

- Understand how individuals relate to each other and about the people and groups in our lives
- Explore, recognise and understand their own cultural values and sense of identity
- Understand, appreciate and embrace cultural diversity and to understand other peoples' values
- Begin to understand the changing nature of cultures in our community
- Strengthen cultural interests
- Develop a sense of worth and enrichment through knowledge and involvement in cultural traditions (from a range of cultures)
- Understand beliefs, customs, values, knowledge and skills which form a basis of identity and cohesion in society
- Build self-confidence and identity through dance, drama, public speaking etc.
- Understand the importance of the arts and creativity in human life
- Develop new interests

### **Delivery**

The teaching staff will use whatever specialist techniques and teaching approaches, which motivate, support the needs, or improve the access of any individual. Teachers will look at matching their teaching approaches to individual pupil's learning styles.

#### **Delivery of subject**

SMSC will be addressed in a range of settings within the school and with further opportunities to access different learning environments. These will include:

- Individual tutorials
- Whole class, small group and individual teaching
- Links to other subjects (via opportunities identified in planning)
- Planned extra curricula activities such as Theme Days and daily Enrichment activities
- Collective worship
- External trips
- Visitors to school

#### **Accreditation**

Pupils will have the opportunity to undertake accredited units of work within the AQA Unit Award scheme, ASDAN 'New Horizons' modules, 'Transition Challenge' and the ASDAN Personal Progress and Personal and Social Development modules of work which support this Curriculum area.

Teachers will determine on an individual basis the appropriateness of each unit to support the teaching delivery of SMSC. The awards obtained by the pupils will be formally presented during the Summer Term.

Written by:	Jon Mount	December 2014	
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