

St. Paul's CE Primary School

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Policy



Approved by Full Governing Board: Spring 2020

Review Date: Spring 2023

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development in School

St. Paul's CE Primary Vision statement says:

Jesus offers life in all its fullness, and so we inspire our children to flourish and grow in school, the community and the wider world.

Our school is a safe and caring environment, with Christian values at its heart. Our school respects, and welcomes, all faiths, cultures and communities.

We ensure every child is valued, encouraging each child to discover their gifts and potential.

Unique and precious in God's eyes, be the best that you can be.

This policy is intended to underpin our school's vision statement and ethos.

Spiritual Development

Spiritual development enables people to look within themselves at their human relationships, at the wider world. The spiritual development of all our children is addressed through the ethos of the school.

As a church voluntary controlled school we include Christian spiritual practices including, prayer, worship, celebration of festivals and reading/reflection on the Bible within Collective Worship, RE and 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;
- building an awareness of and respect for others' spiritual and religious beliefs;
- fostering common human values and building spiritual capacities to promote self-esteem and a valuing of others;
- helping our pupils to come to an understanding of themselves as unique individuals and encouraging them to reflect on the meaning of our experiences;
- developing personal views and insights;
- stimulating our pupils' curiosity, imagination, creativity and promoting a sense of awe and wonder.

At St. Paul's children will be given opportunities to develop these qualities both in and out of the classroom.

Moral development

Moral development: knowing what is right and wrong and acting on it accordingly. We are committed to encouraging pupils to:

- be truthful and honest;
- respect the rights and property of others, their opinions and customs, even when they are different from our own;
- take responsibility for their own decisions and actions;
- begin to recognise the moral dilemma in situations;
- develop for themselves guidelines to govern their own behaviour
- behave well consistently
- articulate their own attitudes and values;
- solve differences of opinion in non-violent ways.

Consequently, we reject all forms of bullying, cruelty, dishonesty, violence and discrimination.

Social development

Social development: developing an understanding of rights and responsibilities of living in a community - of being a "responsible citizen". 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;
- encouraging the children's growing understanding of society through the family, the school, the church and local and wider communities

We use the social and emotion aspects of learning (SEAL) programme to support our pupils' social development

Cultural development

Cultural development: knowledge and understanding of others' cultural traditions. We value and celebrate the cultural diversity of our school, our society and the world by:

- promoting an appreciation of our own cultural traditions and encouraging an appreciation of other peoples' cultural traditions;

- encouraging children's responses through art, literature, music, dance etc.;
- celebrating the richness of culture and tradition.

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:

- providing an appropriate range of effective teaching and learning strategies that enables pupils to reflect on and respond to the issues of *SMSC* importance and concern;
- maintain a positive climate in school in which all are valued and respected and expected to make a positive contribution;
- encouraging teachers to plan for and respond to opportunities to develop *SMSC* development and to ensure subject leader have an understanding of *SMSC* education in their subject;
- recognising the importance of our collective worship programme in supporting and encouraging *SMSC* development.

The following policies are closely linked with this policy:

Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy

Equality and Diversity

Collective Worship Policy

Behaviour and Discipline Policy

Anti-Bullying Policy

Subject area policies especially, but not exclusively, RE, PSHE