



'For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.' Ephesians 2 v 10

Ephesians 2:10



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

Development

-February 2020

Introduction

The Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development of the child is recognised as being of fundamental importance for the education of all children by governors, staff and parents of St Stephen's C of E Primary School. It is at the heart of the school's aims, and the Christian ethos of the school creates the climate within which the development of SMSC can flourish. The development of SMSC is promoted across all curriculum subjects, especially RE and PSHE. It is also promoted through Collective Worship, the school's behaviour policy, and through the positive relationships between staff, pupils, parents and governors.

General Aims for Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development:

- To prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life
- To ensure that a pupil's education is set within a context that is meaningful and appropriate to their age, aptitude and background
- To inspire and stimulate the pupils in order to foster a love of learning and enquiry, to reason rationally and to apply themselves to tasks and physical skills
- To ensure opportunities to be flexible, creative and imaginative in all areas of the curriculum
- To give each pupil a range of opportunities to reflect upon and discuss their learning, beliefs, feelings and responses to personal experience
- To ensure that pupils know what is expected of them and why
- 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
- To develop respect for religious and moral values and understanding of other races, religions and ways of life
- To give each pupil the opportunity to explore social and moral issues, and develop a sense of social and moral responsibility
- To promote good relationships between home, school and the local and wider communities.

Spiritual Development

Spiritual development relates to the development of the nonmaterial element of humans. It is related to pupils' sense of identity, self-worth and their attribution of meaning and purpose. It is characterised by reflection, profound thought and valuing a non-material dimension to life (Ofsted, 2004).

At Stephen's we aim to provide experiences for children to:

- experience enjoyment and engagement in learning
- reflect on learning
- develop self esteem
- become independent and critical thinkers
- be flexible, creative and imaginative
- discuss their values, feelings, beliefs and responses to own experiences
- consider, reflect on and celebrate the wonders and mysteries of life
- Recognise and reflect on Christian approaches to spiritual development

Moral Development

Moral development relates to the building of a framework of moral values which regulates personal behaviour. It is also about knowing the codes and conventions of conduct agreed by society, and understanding that society's values and attitudes change over time (Ofsted, 2004).

At St Stephen's C of E Primary School we aim to provide experiences that enable children to:

- tell the truth
- respect the rights and property of others
- help others less fortunate than themselves
- be considerate to others
- take responsibility for their own actions
- exercise self discipline
- develop high expectations and a positive attitude
- conform to rules and regulations to promote order for the good of all
- recognise the challenge of Jesus' teaching

- gain the confidence to cope with setbacks and learn from mistakes.

Social Development

Social development relates to the development of skills and personal qualities needed to work effectively with each other and participate successfully in the community as a whole. It involves functioning effectively in a multi-cultural, multi-racial society, and understanding the people, places, roles and responsibilities in a community. It also involves the development of the inter-personal skills necessary for successful relationships (Ofsted, 2004).

At St Stephen's C of E Primary School we aim to provide experiences that enable children to:

- work successfully as a member of a group or team
- respect the ideas and suggestions of others
- share views and opinions with others and work towards a consensus
- appreciate the rights and responsibilities of others
- participate in activities relevant to the community, such as the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, Remembrance services, etc
- develop an understanding of their individual and group identity
- help others in the school and wider community
- begin to understand the Christian imperative for social justice and a concern for the disadvantaged.
- Engage with the British values of democracy, the rule of law, liberty, respect and tolerance.

Cultural Development

Cultural development relates to pupils' understanding of their own culture and other cultures in their town, region and in the country as a whole. It is about respecting and celebrating cultural diversity and feeling comfortable in a variety of cultures. It also involves understanding that cultures are always changing and being able to cope with change (Ofsted, 2004).

At St Stephen's C of E Primary School we aim to provide experiences that enable children to:

- develop an understanding of, and show respect for, different cultures and beliefs in Britain and the world beyond
- recognise the value and richness of cultural and religious diversity in Britain, and how these influence individuals and society
- recognise Christianity as a world faith □ share different cultural experiences.