



Much Wenlock Primary School

Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural  
Development Policy

Adopted – September 2016

Review – September 2019

## Definition

The promotion of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural education is considered to be 'a whole school issue' at Much Wenlock Primary School.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development is promoted not only through all the subjects of the curriculum but also through the ethos of the school and through the development of positive attitudes and values.

This policy supports and reinforces the aims of our school, and is embedded in our vision:

**At Much Wenlock Primary School we value each and every child and celebrate their individuality.  
We are committed to nurturing and inspiring children to be happy, confident learners.  
We achieve this by working together to create meaningful and enjoyable experiences.  
In this way we strive to instil a lifelong love of learning and achieving.**

This vision and our motto '**Nurture, Inspire, Believe, Achieve**' underpin our core whole school values of: **Honesty, Empathy, Responsibility, Respect, Tolerance and Resilience.**

## Principles

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development is crucial for individual pupils and it is crucial for society as a whole. We believe it is the heart of what education is all about - helping pupils grow and develop as people and effective participants in modern Britain.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development is cross curricular and promotes the aims and principles of the policies for anti-bullying, behaviour, e-safety, PREVENT, Relationships and Sex Education, Equal Opportunities, PSHE, RE. These policies all underpin the Curriculum model as putting the child at the centre of all we do.

It is an expectation at Much Wenlock Primary School that all staff, in all subjects, can and should make a contribution to the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development of pupils through the curriculum and through the use of appropriate teaching and learning strategies e.g. discussion, reflection, pupil participation, circle time, assemblies etc.

The importance of relationships between all school staff, parents and governors is crucial. These relationships will be characterised by mutual respect, by positive attitudes, by the willingness to listen and be listened to and by the valuing of all pupils.

## **Spiritual Development**

This relates to the quest for individual identity and the search for meaning and purpose in our existence. It leads towards the understanding of self and others. It has to do with feelings, emotions, attitudes and beliefs.

It is not linked solely to a particular doctrine or faith and spiritual development is therefore accessible to everyone.

### **Aims for Spiritual Development**

- The ability to listen and be still
- The ability to reflect
- The ability to sense wonder and mystery in the world
- The ability to sense the special nature of human relationships

### **Objectives for Spiritual Development**

- To develop the skill of being physically still, yet alert
- To develop the skill to use all ones senses
- To develop imagination
- To encourage times for quiet reflection throughout the school day
- To develop individual self confidence

## **Moral Development**

Pupils are encouraged to understand the need for a common code and to follow it from conviction rather than because of sanctions or consequences. At Much Wenlock Primary School we work towards an understanding of what is right and wrong. From this basis, pupils may develop the ability to make judgements and to become increasingly responsible for their own actions or and behaviour.

### **Aims for Moral Development**

- To understand the principles lying behind decisions and actions
- To be able to distinguish between right and wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law in England.
- To be able to make decisions, accepting and understanding consequences of their actions
- To move gradually through a 'taught morality' to taking responsibility for their own moral decisions

### **Objectives for Moral Development**

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

## **Social Development**

This enables pupils to become conscientious participants in their family, class, school, the local and wider community and make a positive contribution to the lives of others in society. Within this there should be a balance of the positive, satisfying elements of belonging to a group or society along with the demands, obligations and cooperation such membership requires.

### **Aims for Social Development**

- To relate positively to others
- To participate fully and take responsibility in class and school
- To use appropriate behaviour across a range of situations
- To work cooperatively with others
- To use own initiative responsibly
- To understand our place in our family, school and society
- To encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.

### **Objectives for Social Development**

- To share emotions such as love, joy, hope, anguish and fear
- To be sensitive to the needs and feelings of others
- To work as part of a group
- To interact positively across a range of situations, e.g. clubs, sports activities, visits, church services, music festivals etc.
- To develop an understanding of citizenship and to experience being a part of a caring community
- To show care and consideration for others e.g. sharing and turn taking
- To realise that every individual can do something well and have something to offer.

### **Cultural Development**

At the heart of cultural development lies the necessity to develop a sense of personal identity, whilst at the same time acquiring awareness, understanding and tolerance regarding the cultural traditions and beliefs of others.

### **Aims for Cultural Development**

- To develop a sense of belonging to pupils' own culture and being proud of their cultural background.
- To challenge opinions or behaviours in school that are contrary to British values
- To respond to cultural events
- To share different cultural experiences
- To respect different cultural traditions
- To understand codes of behaviour, fitting to cultural tradition
- To develop a balanced approach to retaining the traditions of our Christian society, whilst perceiving in a positive light the contribution of other cultures, past and present

### **Objectives for Cultural Development**

- To enable pupils to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services.
- To develop an awareness, recognition and appreciation of the Arts, i.e. Music, Art, Drama, Literature etc.
- To develop a love for learning
- To develop an understanding of different cultures and beliefs, including Christianity
- To appreciate the values and customs of other ethnic and faith groups which make up modern British society, and the world beyond
- To develop the ability to value these independently

## **General Aims for Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development**

We aim:

- To promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and in society
- To prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life
- To enable pupils to distinguish right from wrong, to respect the civil and criminal law of England and to appreciate the rule of law is essential for well-being and safety
- To enable pupils to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services and to respect and support participation in the democratic process
- To promote respect and consideration for differences in gender, race, religion
- To help each pupil achieve their full potential across all areas of the curriculum
- To develop the individual strengths of all pupils and to help and provide support in areas for development
- 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 help our pupils towards independent learning and to equip them with all life skills in order for them to take their place in a fast changing society.
- To ensure there is continuity and progression in skills, knowledge and understanding in all areas of the curriculum
- To develop respect for religious and moral values and understanding of other races, religions and ways of life while challenging opinions or behaviours in school that are contrary to British values
- To help the pupils understand the world in which they live
- To develop a sense of responsibility, consideration for others, self respect and self confidence
- To promote good relationships between home, school and the local and wider communities.

## **Assessment**

Informal assessment is primarily through observation of pupil behaviour, the views that pupils express, and through discussion amongst staff.