

Steam Mills SMSC Audit



What is SMSC?

SMSC stands for Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education. Alongside their academic learning, these aspects of learning about life are very significant; the ability to appreciate the spiritual nature of themselves, to consider moral issues, to understand the social contexts in which they will find themselves and to function confidently and empathetically in a culturally diverse world. We all want to fully develop these attributes in our children and to make sure we interweave this learning successfully into our school, we have recently carried out a detailed audit. Below you will find a short explanation of each aspect of SMSC and on the back of this sheet is a summary of the findings of the audit.

SPIRITUAL

Children's spiritual development involves the development of children's sense of self and their unique potential. Through spiritual learning children will:

- Experience the fascination and wonder in the world around them
- Explore the values and beliefs of others
- Understanding human feelings and emotions
- Using imagination and creativity in learning

MORAL

Children's moral development involves them developing an understanding of the difference between right and wrong and of a concern for others and the will to do what is right. Through moral learning children will:

- Investigate moral values and ethical issues
- Recognise right and wrong and applying it
- Understand the consequences of actions

SOCIAL

Children's social development involves them developing an understanding of the responsibilities and rights of being members of families and communities and an ability to relate to others Through their social learning children will:

- Develop personal qualities and use social skills
- Participate, cooperate and resolve conflict
- Understanding how communities and societies function

CULTURAL

Children's cultural development involves them gaining an interest and understanding of their own and other's cultural traditions and an ability to respond to a variety of aesthetic experiences. Through their cultural learning children will:

- Explore, understand and respect diversity
- Participate in and respond to cultural activity
- Understanding personal influences which have shaped their heritage



At Steam Mills we have integrated SMSC very thoroughly and successfully, not only into our curriculum, assemblies and displays but also through the way we live and work together, the way we talk to each other and the way we behave. We call this our ethos and it is very important to us.

We hope you will enjoy reading some of the ways we do this on the reverse of this sheet.

SPIRITUAL

"My teacher tells me I can be whatever I want to be." Year 6 pupil

- Through our diverse and exciting curriculum we give children frequent opportunities to marvel at the world around them and consider their place in our world
- We give children different ways to explore their emotions and feelings about themselves and others. This is emphasised through our school values.
- We celebrate creativity and love children to use their imaginations when learning and when trying to find solutions for difficult situations
- One of our priorities is develop children's sense of self-esteem, their sense of uniqueness and we support them in understanding abstract feeling such as generosity, thankfulness and joy.
- Growth mindset is central to the way we learn at Steam Mills. Children are taught to be aspirational in the way they think about life and the decisions they make.

SPIRITUAL

"It's OK to get things wrong. That's how you we learn." Year 3 pupil

- Through wide ranging themes, children discuss challenging issues and reflect on injustice, inequality and other ethical issues at an appropriate level. They learn about consequences for actions when studying topics linked to war and the environment for example.
- Our children are constantly encouraged to consider right and wrong through the structures of school and class golden rules, through sport and team activities and collaborative learning.
- At Steam Mills, our teaching styles encourage independence and allow children to make mistakes and then learn from them.
- Respect is taught across the school. Children are able to explain how to show respect in the classroom, playground, dinner hall and around corridors.
- Children are taught to be responsible for their own behaviour.

SPIRITUAL

"I like working with my friends. We talk about what we want to do." Year 1 pupil

- Children collaborate together on written. mathematical and art projects linked to the curriculum, learning key skills which contribute to high quality team work.
- As a school we are frequently involved in projects and initiatives linked to the local community.
- Children learn how communities function and the different roles within these structures.
- We raise money for a range of causes and children understand the positive impact this has.
- Pupil voice is strong at Steam Mills with children being consulted and listened to on a range of issues such as line markings on the playground. Children see the decision making process in action and understand about democracy through our school parliament.
- Visitors to our school from the community enrich children's learning eg the local police and fire service, Severn Trent Water and the Mayor.

CULTURAL

"Different kinds of people make things interesting." Year 6 pupil

- At Steam Mills, differences are celebrated and diversity is a source of interest and inspiration.
- Through a wide range of themes such as 'Fairtrade' and 'China, children learn about diversity in the wider world.
- Through books, music, dance and art, children learn about their own cultural heritage and how cultures have changed through history.
- A range of extra curricular activities encourage children to participate and try new activities. Staff are good at noticing aptitude and interest in children and developing skills.
- Empathy and the importance of this, is taught discreetly and explicitly across the school and children show evidence of a developing understanding of the importance of empathy in a diverse world.
- British values are apparent throughout the school emphasizing tolerance and respect.