



William Westley Church of England
Primary School

SMSC Policy

Last reviewed: Jan 2016

Next review due: Jan 2017

William Westley Church of England Primary School SMSC Policy

The Christian belief that human beings are created in the image of God, and that each shares in God's purpose to bring life and allow creation to flourish, underpins the work and nature of our school, and is endorsed in our mission statement.

“To strive for excellence by encouraging our children to fulfil their true potential through a creative and challenging curriculum within a Christian environment”

At William Westley Church of England Primary School we recognise that the personal development of pupils, spiritually, morally, socially and culturally, plays a significant part in their ability to learn and achieve. We therefore aim to provide an education that allows pupils - opportunities to explore and develop their own values, beliefs, spiritual awareness, high standards of personal behaviour, a positive caring attitude towards other people, an understanding of their social and cultural tradition and an appreciation of the diversity and richness of different cultures.

Guidelines

All curriculum areas have a contribution to make to the children's moral, social and cultural development and opportunities for this will be planned in each area of the curriculum.

Christian spirituality and Christian values and principles will be explored in all curriculum areas, especially in R.E. and collective worship, but the integrity and spirituality of pupils from other faith backgrounds will be respected and explored. The diversity of spiritual traditions will be recognised, and pupils will be given access to alternative views.

All adults will model and promote expected behaviour, treating all people as unique and valuable individuals and showing respect for pupils and their families.

The school community will be a place where pupils can find acceptance for themselves as unique individuals, and where forgiveness and the opportunity to start again is fundamental to the ethos of the school.

Pupils should learn to differentiate between right and wrong in as far as their actions affect other people. They will be encouraged to value themselves and others.

Pupils should understand the need for rules and the need to abide by rules for the good of everyone. School and classroom rules should reflect, reiterate, promote and reward acceptable behaviour and provide opportunities to celebrate children's work and achievements.

All curriculum areas should seek to use illustrations and examples drawn from as wide a range of cultural contexts as possible. This will be reflected in teacher's planning and in purchasing decisions.

General Aims

- To ensure that everyone connected with the school is aware of our values and principles.
- To ensure a consistent approach to the delivery of SMSC issues through the curriculum and the general life of the school.
- To ensure that a pupil's education is set within a context that is meaningful and appropriate to their age, aptitude and background.
- To ensure that pupils know what is expected of them and why.
- To give each pupil a range of opportunities to reflect and discuss their beliefs, feelings, and responses to personal experience.
- 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, and an appreciation of the many cultures that now enrich our society.
- To give each pupil the opportunity to explore social and moral issues, and develop a sense of social and moral responsibility.

Spiritual Development

As a school we aim to provide learning opportunities that will enable pupils to:

- Sustain their self-esteem in their learning experience.
- Develop their capacity for critical and independent thought.
- Foster their emotional life and express their feelings.
- Experience moments of stillness and reflection.
- Form and maintain worthwhile and satisfying relationships.
- Reflect on, consider and celebrate the wonders and mysteries of life.

Moral Development

As a school we aim to provide learning opportunities that will enable pupils to:

- Recognise the unique value of each individual.
- Recognise the challenge of Jesus' teaching.
- Listen and respond appropriately to the views of others.
- Gain the confidence to cope with setbacks and learn from mistakes.
- Take initiative and act responsibly with consideration for others.
- Distinguish between right and wrong.
- Show respect for the environment.
- Make informed and independent judgements.

Social Development

As a school we aim to provide learning opportunities that will enable pupils to:

- Develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.
- Learn about service in the school and wider community.
- Begin to understand the Christian imperative for social justice and a concern for all.

Cultural Development

As a school we aim to provide learning opportunities that will enable pupils to:

- Recognise the value and richness of cultural diversity in Britain, and how these influence individuals and society.
- Recognise Christianity as a world wide faith.
- Develop an understanding of their social and cultural environment.
- Develop an understanding of Britain's local, national, European, Commonwealth and global dimensions.

Teaching and Organisation

Development in SMSC will take place across all curriculum areas, within activities that encourage pupils to recognise the spiritual dimension of their learning, reflect on the significance of what they are learning, and to recognise any challenges that there may be to their own attitude and lifestyle.

All curriculum areas should seek illustrations and examples drawn from as wide a range of cultural contexts as possible.

Class discussions and circle time will give pupils opportunities to:

- Talk about personal experiences and feelings.
- Express and clarify their own ideas and beliefs.
- Speak about difficult events, e.g. bullying.
- Share thoughts and feelings with other people.
- Explore relationships with friends/ families / others.
- Consider others needs' and behaviour.
- Show empathy.
- Develop self esteem and respect for others.
- Develop a sense of belonging.
- Develop the skills and attitudes that enable pupils to develop socially, morally, spiritually and culturally- e.g. empathy, respect, open-mindedness, sensitivity, critical awareness.

Many curriculum areas provide opportunities to:

- Listen and talk to each other.
- Learn an awareness of treating all as equals, and accepting people who are physically or mentally different.
- Agree and disagree.
- Take turns and share equipment.
- Work cooperatively and collaboratively.
- **English:** speaking and listening (sensitivity to others); personal expression and creativity through writing; exploring issues through drama; reading as a way of seeing the world from other people's perspectives.
- **Maths:** appreciation of the intrinsic beauty of shapes and patterns and numbers; the concept of infinity; the uncertainty of investigation, perseverance.
- **Science:** investigations do not always have the correct answer; discoveries that have enhanced human life; the planets and the solar system; growth, germination, human development; dying.
- **History:** appreciation of the spans of time covered by history; development of human societies; heroism; human achievement.

- **Art:** creativity; appreciation of the works of others (children and adults); the ability to experiment; perseverance; cultural links.
- **Music:** creativity; appreciation; traditional and cultural links; working in a team to produce a piece of music; beauty and wonder.
- **PE:** team work; striving for excellence; celebration of what each can do; enjoyment of life; health; sportsmanship; fair play.
- **Geography:** our place in the world; other cultures and ways of living; the power of natural forces; the fragility of nature; ecological issues.
- **ICT & DT:** investigating; being creative; persevering; co-operating; responses to the media.
- **RE:** asking questions, empathy and respect for the beliefs and values of others; traditions of worship.

In addition, work in the citizenship units of work will directly add to the development of these aims and objectives.

Links with the wider community

- Visitors to the school are welcome. Some visitors will play a part in collective worship, others may work with the whole school or an individual class.
- Links with the church are fostered through links with our local church and the Diocesan Board of Education.
- The development of strong home- school links is regarded as important, enabling parents and teachers to work as an effective partnership to support the child.
- Pupils will be taught to appreciate their local environment and to develop a sense of responsibility to it. We have a link with the National Trust as part of its guardianship scheme.
- The link with the SOS Children's Village in Tlokweng, Botswana

Monitoring and Evaluation

Provision for SMSC is monitored and reviewed on a regular basis. This is achieved by:

- Monitoring the delivery of the citizenship programme.
- Regular discussions at staff meetings.
- Sharing of classroom work and practice.
- Monitoring of collective worship.
- Monitoring extra curricula activities.
- Evaluating resources and the part paid by visitors to the school.
- Governor visits by Foundation Governors.

Conclusion

High standards in the area of SMSC development will be sought and maintained by making explicit the school's values expressed in the Mission Statement. This policy should be read in conjunction with the R.E., Collective Worship and Citizenship policies.

This policy was ratified on :

Jan 2016

and will be reviewed by:

Jan 2017

Signed by the Headteacher:

Paul Bryant

Chair of Governors:

Mark Norman

Foundation Governors:

Mary Sutcliffe

Judy Quarrie-Roberts

Caroline Wilson