



## Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education Policy

### “Learning and Caring Together in Faith”

#### **The General Aims of SMSC**

- To explore our core British Values and respect the values of others. These are:
  - democracy.
  - the rule of law.
  - individual liberty.
  - mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith.
- 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 pupils know what is expected of them and why.
- To give each pupil a range of opportunities to reflect upon 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.

#### **SMSC in the Curriculum**

St Andrew's CE Infant School recognises that the personal development of pupils, spiritually, morally, socially and culturally, plays a significant part in their ability to learn, achieve and be contributing members of society therefore SMSC is at the centre of our school ethos and curriculum.

We aim to provide an education that gives pupils the opportunity to explore and develop their own values and beliefs, spiritual awareness, high standards of behaviour, an understanding of their own and others social and cultural traditions and a positive, caring attitude. We also aim to foster an appreciation and understanding of the diversity and richness of other cultures at a local and global level.

SMSC is embedded explicitly in the PSHE and RE curriculum but permeates all curriculum areas and daily life through our expectations and the Christian ethos of our school. The beliefs and values from other faith backgrounds as well as core British values are respected and explored. The diversity of our local and global societies is recognised, and pupils are encouraged to learn about alternative views and opportunities and to respond in a considered and educated way.

#### **SMSC supporting positive behaviour**

All adults will model and promote expected behaviour, treating all people as unique and valuable individuals, showing respect and tolerance for all. Pupils will learn the difference between right and wrong and understand how their actions can affect others. They will be encouraged to use restorative approaches and to value themselves and others. Our whole school behaviour management system “Good to be Green”

encourages and supports this. Using a consistent framework of rules, rewards and sanctions children are encouraged to behave appropriately and enjoy celebrating their own and other people's successes.

**Spiritual development will be shown by the:**

- ability to be reflective about their own beliefs, religious or otherwise, that inform their perspective on life and their interest in and respect for different people's faiths, feelings and values
- sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them
- use of imagination and creativity in their learning
- willingness to reflect on their experiences

**Moral development will be shown by the:**

- ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong, readily apply this understanding in their own lives
- understanding of the consequences of their behaviour and actions
- interest in investigating and offering reasoned views about moral issues, and being able to understand and appreciate the viewpoints of others on these issues.

**Social development will be shown by the:**

- use of a range of social skills in different contexts, including working and socialising with pupils from different backgrounds
- willingness to participate in a variety of communities and social settings, including by volunteering, cooperating well with others and being able to resolve conflicts effectively
- acceptance and engagement with the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs; the pupils develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.

**Cultural development will be shown by the:**

- understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage and that of others
- understanding and appreciation of the range of different cultures within school and further afield as an essential element of their preparation for life in modern Britain
- knowledge of democracy by voting to choose members for the School Council and respecting the authority of those they have chosen
- willingness to participate in and respond positively to artistic, sporting and cultural opportunities
- interest in exploring, improving understanding of and showing respect for *different faiths* and cultural diversity, and the extent to which they understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity, as shown by their *tolerance* and attitudes towards different religious, ethnic and socio-economic groups in the local, national and global communities
- Understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage
- Willingness to participate in, and respond to for example, artistic, musical, sporting, mathematical, technological, scientific and cultural opportunities