



The Abbey Primary School

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Policy

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SMSC Policy

SMSC stands for **spiritual, moral, social and cultural** development. All schools in England must show how well their pupils develop in SMSC.

Spiritual

Explore beliefs and experience; respect faiths, feelings and values; enjoy learning about oneself, others and the surrounding world; use imagination and creativity; reflect.

Moral

Recognise right and wrong; respect the law; understand consequences; investigate moral and ethical issues; offer reasoned views.

Social

Use a range of social skills; participate in the local community; appreciate diverse viewpoints; participate, volunteer and cooperate; resolve conflict; engage with the 'British values' of democracy, the rule of law, liberty, respect and tolerance.

Cultural

Appreciate cultural influences; appreciate the role of Britain's parliamentary system; participate in culture opportunities; understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity.

At Abbey C of E Primary School we want our children to be successful, confident learners and responsible citizens. We recognise the importance of both the academic and personal

development and well-being of every child in our school. This includes recognising the importance of providing a range of opportunities for our children to respond to, that supports their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Spiritual development:

For some the spiritual is intimately bound up with the belief in God, whilst for others it is bound up with the human spirit alone.

As a church school, Abbey C of E Primary provides a set of values based on the Christian faith. Central to the Christian teaching is the love of God and the love of one's neighbour as oneself. We include Christian spiritual practices including prayer, worship, celebration of festivals and reading/reflection on the Bible within our daily Collective Worship (weekly in St Albans Cathedral) , RE and the wider curriculum.

We are committed to:

- celebrating the religious and non-religious beliefs and values that our children bring as part of their family/cultural heritage and to building an awareness of and respect for others 'spiritual and religious beliefs
- fostering common human values and building spiritual capacities to promote self-worth
- self-esteem and a valuing of others
- helping our children to come to an understanding of themselves as unique individuals and encouraging them to reflect on ultimate questions
- developing our children's curiosity, imagination, creativity and promoting a sense of awe and wonder.

Moral development

Knowing what is right and wrong and acting on it accordingly. We are committed to encouraging our children to:

- be truthful and honest
- respect the rights and property of others, their opinions and customs, even when they are different from our own
- help others
- solve differences of opinion in non-violent ways

Consequently we reject all forms of bullying, cruelty, dishonesty, violence and discrimination.

Social development

Developing an understanding of rights and responsibilities of living in community-of being a 'responsible citizen'. We are committed to:

- fostering the skill and qualities of team building through the development of self-confidence, co-operation, sensitivity to others, reliability, initiative and understanding
- providing an environment where children can take responsibility for themselves and others in school and the wider society

Cultural development

Knowledge and understanding of own and others' cultural traditions. We value and celebrate the cultural diversity of our school, our society and the world by:

- promoting an appreciation of our own cultural tradition/s and encouraging an appreciation of other people's cultural traditions
- celebrating the richness of culture and tradition.

In the light of this we will ensure that the SMSC development of our children is promoted across the curriculum and in the wider life of the school by:

- providing an appropriate range of effective teaching and learning strategies that enable children to reflect on and respond to the issues of SMSC importance and concern
- maintain a positive climate in school in which all are valued and respected and expected to make a positive contribution
- encouraging teachers to plan for and respond to opportunities to develop SMSC development and to ensure subject leaders have an understanding of SMSC education in their subject
- recognising the importance of our collective worship programme in supporting and encouraging SMSC development
- reviewing the effectiveness and impact of the policy and practice as part of our cycle of school development

The following policies are closely linked with our spiritual, moral, social and cultural policy:

- School Vision, mission, Aims and Values
- SEN Policy
- Collective Worship Policy

- Subject area policies especially, but not exclusively, RE, PSHE