



**Whitchurch CE Junior School**  
**Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Policy**  
**2017**

At Whitchurch Junior School the personal development of students is a fundamental part of the academic and pastoral work of the school. To this end, we want to develop students spiritually, morally, socially and culturally and ensure that they are treated as individuals.

We aim to deliver spiritual, moral, social and cultural education through all aspects of school life; curriculum, extra-curricular activities, school trips, the pastoral system, assemblies as well as themes events. No school can effectively promote the personal development of its young people without the partnership of parents and the wider community. We therefore do our best to engage these key stakeholders in this endeavor and work closely with them whenever possible.

**What is Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education?**

**The Spiritual Development of children is shown by their:**

- Ability to be reflective about their own beliefs, religious or otherwise, which inform their perspective on life and their interest in and respect for different people's feelings, values and faiths.
- Sense of enjoyment, fascination and curiosity in learning about themselves, others and the world around them, including the intangible.
- Use of imagination and creativity in their learning.
- Willingness to reflect on their experiences and those of others.

**The Moral Development of children is shown by their:**

- Ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong, and their readiness to apply this understanding in their own lives. To have a respect and understanding for the civil and criminal law of England.
- Understanding of justice, honesty and truth.
- Understanding of the consequences of their behaviour and that of others.
- Interest in investigating, and offering reasoned views about, moral, ethical and political issues. Able to accept, respect and appreciate that others may have a different viewpoint.

**The Social Development of children is shown by their:**

- Use of a range of social skills in different contexts, including working and socialising with pupils from different religious, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds.
- Value of diversity and equality in society including age, disability, ethnicity, religious or non-religious beliefs and other characteristics.
- Willingness to participate in a variety of social settings, cooperating well with others and being able to resolve conflicts effectively.
- Willingness to volunteer for a range of different opportunities sometimes in challenging or unfamiliar contexts such as a residential or community based work.
- Interest in, and understanding of, the way communities and societies function at a variety of levels.
- Acceptance and engagement with the fundamental British Values (see the school teaching British Values Policy statement) of democracy, the rule of law, respect and tolerance of those with differing faiths and beliefs. Their attitudes towards these British values allows the children to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.
- Reflection on the role and value of leadership, participation and volunteering (environmental and local history projects, clubs and visits, community action and pupil voice groups)

**The Cultural Development of children is shown by their:**

- Understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage and that of others.
- Willingness to participate in, and respond to, for example, artistic, musical, sporting, mathematical, technological, scientific and cultural opportunities.
- Understanding and appreciation of the wide range of different cultures within school and further afield as an essential element of their preparation for life in modern Britain.
- Interest in exploring, understanding of, and respect for cultural diversity and the extent to which they understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity, as shown by their attitudes towards different religious, ethnic and socio-economic groups in the local, national and global communities.

**Planning**

In planning lessons, teachers are aware of the need to plan opportunities to develop a wide variety of spiritual, moral, social and cultural needs. A vast majority will be delivered through cross-curricular activities as well as specific PSHE, RE and Circle Time activities.

## How we make provision for children's Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development across the school

Spiritual Development	
Provision	How it is evidenced
Religious Education curriculum Assemblies Opportunities for quiet reflection Outdoor education Forest School Learning Whole school Values based themes	RE curriculum plans, include a multi-faith approach based upon the Shropshire SACRe document. Visiting places of worship Whole school assemblies and celebrations of values and person of the week. Wednesday bible assemblies Outdoor learning Forest School activities Residential visits (year 6) Harvest, Christmas and Easter celebrations Nurture groups Visits from faith groups Time to reflect upon learning and experiences

Planned opportunities for spiritual development in all subjects can be seen across the school.

Children are given opportunities to reflect upon the meaning of spiritual experiences. Examples of experiences commonly regarded as spiritual include:

- Curiosity and questions
- Awe and wonder
- Connection and belonging
- Heightened self-awareness
- Prayer and worship
- Deep feelings of what is felt to be ultimately important
- A sense of security, well-being, worth and purposefulness

The school has developed a climate within which all children can grow and flourish, respect others and be respected; accommodating difference and respecting the integrity of individuals.

Moral Development	
Provision	How it is evidenced
School behaviour Policy and Code of Conduct	Regular reviews of Behaviour Nurture groups Celebration of children achieving Star of the week
Religious Education curriculum	Anti-bullying activities and Anti-bullying Ambassadors
Pupil Voice	E-Safety teaching
Philosophy for Children	Whole school Assemblies and the explicit discussion of school values, value of the half term communicated to parents and carers through newsletter
Taking part in Charitable projects	Weekly school certificates to children in assembly and published in school newsletter Circle times Child participation in a range of pupil groups: School Council, Eco Team, Reading ambassadors and anti-bullying ambassadors Charity appeals Singing with the Pearl of Africa choir Singing at the local Nursing home

We support children to:

- Distinguish right from wrong, based on knowledge of the moral codes of their own and other cultures
- Develop an ability to think through the consequences of their own and others' actions
- Have an ability to make responsible and reasoned judgements
- Ensure a commitment to personal values
- Have respect for others' needs, interests and feelings, as well as their own
- Develop a desire to explore their own and others' views, and an understanding of the need to review and re-assess their values, codes and principles in the light of experience

Our school develops pupil moral development by:

- Providing a clear moral code as a basis for behaviour which is promoted consistently through all aspects of the school
- Promoting racial, religious and other forms of equality
- Giving pupils opportunities across the curriculum to explore and develop moral concepts and values –for example, personal rights and responsibilities, truth, justice, equality of opportunity, right and wrong
- Developing an open and safe learning environment in which pupils can

express their views and practice moral decision making

- Rewarding expressions of moral insights and good behaviour
- Recognising and respecting the codes and morals of the different cultures represented in the school and wider community
- Encouraging pupils to take responsibility for their actions, for example, respect for property, care of the environment, and developing codes of behaviour
- Providing models of moral virtue through literature, humanities, sciences, arts and assemblies; reinforcing the school's values through images, posters, classroom displays, etc. and monitoring in simple ways, the success of what is provided

Social Development	
Provision	How it is evidenced
PSHE Curriculum Working together in teams Pupil Voice Extra curricular activities The Arts Curriculum Outdoor Education PE curriculum Cross phase working	Pupil Groups including: School Council, Anti-bullying ambassadors, Eco Team and Reading ambassadors Residential visits in year 6 and Educational visits Afterschool clubs choir Transition visits Play leaders Participation in Charity support: Charity enterprise project, Children in Need, Red Nose Day Participation in Sporting events School house competitions Forest School

At Whitchurch Junior School we recognise that pupils who are becoming socially aware are likely to be developing the ability to:

- Adjust to a range of social contexts by appropriate and sensitive behaviour
- Relate well to other people's social skills and personal qualities
- Work successfully, as a member of a group or team
- Share views and opinions with others
- Resolve conflicts maturely and appropriately
- Reflect on their own contribution to society
- Show respect for people, living things, property and the environment
- Exercise responsibility
- Understand how societies function and are organised in structures such as the family, the school
- Understand the notion of interdependence in an increasingly complex society

Our school develops pupil social development by:

- Identifying key values and principles on which school and community life is based
- Fostering a sense of community, with common, inclusive values
- Promoting racial, religious and other forms of equality
- Encouraging pupils to work co-operatively
- Encouraging pupils to recognise and respect social differences and similarities
- Providing positive experiences to reinforce our values as a school community –for example, through assemblies, team building activities, residential experiences, school productions
- Helping pupils develop personal qualities, which are valued in a civilised society, for example, thoughtfulness, honesty, respect for difference, moral principles, independence, interdependence, self-respect and awareness of others’ needs
- Providing opportunities for engaging in the democratic process and participating in community life
- Providing opportunities for pupils to exercise leadership and responsibility
- Providing positive and effective links with the world of work and the wider community

Cultural Development	
Provision	How it is evidenced
School Visits Participation in the Arts Arts Curriculum MFL	School visits to museums, galleries, concerts, theatre visits etc. Opportunities to take part in school productions /Performances Singing Choir Opportunities for individual instrumental lessons Visits from people of different cultures MFL teaching Sports Day

### Cultural Development

Children learn about and experience the diversity of other cultures both within modern Britain and throughout the world.

At Whitchurch Junior School we recognise that pupils who are developing their cultural awareness are likely to be developing the ability to:

- Reflect on important questions of meaning and identity
- Explore the relationship between human beings and the environment

Our school develops cultural development by:

- Extending pupils' knowledge and use of cultural imagery and language
- Encouraging them to think about special events in life and how they are celebrated
- Recognising and nurturing particular gifts and talents; providing opportunities for pupils to participate in literature, drama, music, art, crafts and other cultural events and encouraging pupils to reflect on their significance
- Reinforcing the school's cultural links through displays, posters, exhibitions, etc. As well as developing partnerships with outside agencies and individuals to extend pupils' cultural awareness, for example, theatre, museum and gallery visits

## Appendix

See each year group analysis of where SMSC has been evident in the curriculum.

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