

St. Peter's C of E Primary & Nursery School



Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural and Citizenship Policy

Policy reviewed – Spring Term 2024

Next Review – Spring Term 2028

Vision

At St Peter's C of E Primary School, the growth and development of children and adults is central to everything we do. As a church school, we aim to serve and take care of our community by providing an education which inspires every child to be the best they can be. This is within a framework which is rooted in distinctive Christian beliefs and values whilst embracing diversity, respecting other faiths and worshipping together. We encourage an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith and promote Christian values through the experiences we offer to all our school community.

Values

All of St Peter's school community work together and take care to provide an inspiring, inclusive and creative learning experience for all of our children. A welcoming and safe environment encourages all to be happy, hopeful and enthusiastic learners. This enables them to take risks in their learning to develop a lifelong love of learning and faithfulness and experience life in all its fullness. We aim to nurture the whole child and encourage them to be unique individuals preparing them for their life and go beyond expectations.

We value our partnership with parents, carers, governors, the Church and the wider community. We encourage everyone to take an active role in all aspects of school life, promoting a sense of pride and living together well. Together we develop a community of love and dignity in which everyone feels valued, cared for and supported, celebrating the uniqueness of each individual because they are made in the image of God.

We encourage all our school community to have hopes, aspirations and be independent learners who thrive on challenge: meeting those challenges with positivity, courage and perseverance. We inspire to have a lively and enquiring mind through a resilient approach in an enriched curriculum and help all our pupils to appreciate that the best successes in life often have the foundations of failed attempts.

Underpinned with the importance of emotional well-being, we believe in taking care of the development of the whole child: educationally, culturally, socially, emotionally, physically, morally and spiritually.

We promote the highest standards of achievement by all pupils regardless of ability, religion, ethnic origin or gender.

Our core purpose is for all our children to achieve profound personal development by taking care of themselves, others, the world and in their work. We aim for them to treasure their educational and spiritual journey gathering wisdom, knowledge and skills to experience life in all its fullness. As a community, we are unlocking the gates to a lifelong love of learning which will always remain open.

Aims of SMSC:

The personal development of pupils **spiritually, morally, socially, and culturally** plays a significant part in their ability to learn and achieve. As a 'Take Care School', SMSC is central to everything we do. Our understanding of Spirituality is 'who we are at our deepest level and how we feel towards ourselves and those around us'. We therefore aim to provide profound personal development for our children through the experiences we offer to them in school. Our four 'take care' focus areas: to take care of ourselves, others, the world and our work, are lived out through our BE (beyond expectation) attitudes. Our links with our community and the wider world as well as

our opportunities for charity work built into our curriculum aim to enrich the lives of our children and support their development and growth in SMSC. It is our mission for our children to enter a spiritual journey when they come to us and then to leave us having developed a sense of who they are and who they want to be as they enter the wider world.

THE AIM OF SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

For the children to:

- Be helped to gain insight into their personal existence
- Experience opportunities for reflection
- To be helped to acquire personal beliefs and values
- Be helped to respect the personal beliefs and values of others
- Be helped to make sense of life experiences
- Be helped to acquire belief and values within the context of the Christian Faith
- Be helped to discover and explore who they are and who they want to be.

OUR APPROACH TO SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT AT ST PETER'S

It is understood that spiritual development is not another name for religious education, personal and social education or moral development but all are part of it. The spiritual development of the children is provided through:

- Religious education lessons
- Personal and social education activities through our HeartSmart PSHE programme.
- Elements within acts of collective worship and other assemblies eg. Worship songs, prayer, time for reflection
- The Christian ethos of the school and our 'take care' approach.
- Planned opportunities eg .services at church, visits to other churches, charity events built within the curriculum.

THE AIMS OF MORAL DEVELOPMENT

For the children to:

- Ultimately acquire the moral awareness to enable them to become responsible members of society
- Acquire knowledge, understanding, attitudes and behaviour in order to distinguish between what is right and what is wrong.
- Have opportunities to explore the place of reason in ethical matters
- Be provided with a moral framework within which to judge their own behaviour, understandings and responses
- acquire value systems of their own

OUR APPROACH TO MORAL DEVELOPMENT AT ST PETER'S

It is understood that the word moral is concerned with fundamental judgements and precepts about how we should behave and act and the reasons for such behaviour. The moral development of the children is provided through:

- the Christian ethos of the school and take care approach
- the practical application of the Behaviour policy
- the practical application of the policy for Personal and Social Education
- personal and social education activities
- health education activities
- associated themes in collective worship and other assemblies
- religious education lessons

THE AIMS OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

For the children to:

- ultimately acquire the social skills and qualities needed to play a responsible part in society
- relate in a socially acceptable manner and with confidence to other children and familiar adults in the context of the school
- behave in a socially acceptable manner and with confidence to other children and unfamiliar but safe adults out of school
- relate appropriately to one another within the classroom and around the school
- behave safely and responsibly in relation to themselves and others make and sustain friendships
- have self-respect and respect for others whatever their gender, age, abilities and ethnic origin □
make effective and safe use of leisure time

OUR APPROACH TO SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AT ST PETER'S

It is understood that social development is concerned with the skill and personal qualities necessary for individuals to live and function effectively in society. It also involves growth in knowledge and understanding of society in all its aspects; its institutions, structures and characteristics, organisations and principles and life as a member of the community. Social development is also closely related to the development of moral principles.

The social development of the children is provided through:

- the organisation of the classroom e.g. seating and the grouping of the children, talk partners changing each week.
- the organisation of working arrangements in the classroom e.g. Cooperative activities
- the 'take care' ethos of the school and the practice of the Behaviour policy

- the practice of the policy for Personal and Social Education
- the practice of the Equal Opportunities policy
- extra- curricular activities we offer
- health education
- encouraging team based activities and taking part in inter school events
- off site visits and links within the local and wider community
- school social events
- taking part in acts of collective worship, assemblies, church services and productions
- lunchtime arrangements
- playtimes and time of play in the classroom,
- specific targets for children based on structured conversations
- the encouragement of adults, other than teachers into the school to support and work with the children.
- children to draw on strategies and apply mindful approaches to social situations when needed e.g. take five
- as a school, work together to identify children that need extra support to bridge development gaps in social awareness through our Thrive initiative and provide a support programme in accordance to their needs.

THE AIMS OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

For the children to:

- experience, respond to, and value specific aspects of culture as reflected in music, art, drama, poetry, science, technology, physical education and religious education.
- gain understanding of and knowledge about past and present cultures
- develop an awareness of their local cultural heritage
- develop multicultural awareness and respect for the cultures of different people.

It is understood that cultural development refers to the children's increasing understand and command of those beliefs, values, customs, knowledge and skills which, taken together, form the basis of identity and cohesion in societies and groups.

Cultural development is closely related to and may incorporate aspects of spiritual moral and social development.

OUR APPROACH TO CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AT ST PETER'S

The cultural development of the children is provided through:

- specific aspects of the curriculum; English, Art, Music, Science, History, Geography and Religious Education
- extra -curricular activities

- enabling the children to take part in productions which involve them in music, drama and dance
- the practice for Multicultural Education
- visits by performing artists and external education providers/experience days (e.g Chinese New Year, Holi drama and dance workshop, Diwali celebrations)

Monitoring and evaluation:

SMSC&C provision is monitored by planning review, curriculum review, observing teaching and learning and discussions at staff and governor meetings.

All members of staff have a responsibility to ensure that SMSC&C is consistently approached through all aspects of the curriculum and the general life of the school. However, it is important to remember that whilst examples of SMSC&C may, at times, be implicit, it is also important to ensure that children engage fully in their personal **spiritual, moral, social, cultural and citizenship** development, understanding that SMSC plays a significant part in their ability to learn and achieve. Development of SMSC and activities supporting this will therefore be made explicit to and shared with the children regularly.