



Oreston Community Academy

Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural (SMSC Policy)

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SMSC Policy 2019

Definitions:

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: investigate and moral issues; appreciate diverse viewpoints; participate, volunteer and cooperate; resolve conflict; engage with the fundamental values of British democracy.

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

Rationale

At Oreston Community Academy, we recognise that spiritual, moral, social and cultural development plays a significant part in pupils' ability to learn and achieve. It is central to the education of all pupils and permeates the whole curriculum and ethos of the school. It is reflected in the behaviours of individuals, their interactions and also in the provision of teaching, resources and learning environments.

Aims

We aim to provide an education that provides children with opportunities to explore and develop their own values and beliefs, spiritual awareness, high standards of personal behaviour, a positive, caring attitude towards others, an understanding of their social and cultural traditions and an appreciation of the diversity of other cultures.

All curriculum areas have a contribution to the child's SMSC development and opportunities for this will be planned in each area of the curriculum particularly in RE, PHSE and collective worship. The integrity and spirituality of other faith backgrounds will be respected and explored across all key stages.

All adults will model and promote expected behaviour, treating all people as valuable individuals and showing respect for all pupils and their families. Children 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. Children will begin to understand their rights and responsibilities and the need to respect others. Teachers' weekly planning will reflect this and will follow Jigsaw's PSHE whole school approach. Every Jigsaw lesson offers opportunities for children to enhance the five skills associated with emotional literacy (self-awareness, social skills, empathy, motivation and managing feelings).

The education the children will experience will be set within a meaningful context appropriate to their age, aptitude and background.

Children will have the opportunity to:

- share their achievements and successes with others;
- talk about their personal experiences and feelings;
- learn about families and the relationships within;
- consider the needs and behaviours of others;
- show empathy;
- develop self-esteem and a respect for others;
- develop a sense of belonging;
- develop skills and attitudes that enable them to develop SMSC e.g. respect, sensitivity;
- children will listen and talk to each other in all areas of the curriculum and beyond;
- learn to understand that we are all different and this should be celebrated;
- learn to agree and disagree;
- experience good role models;
- learn to take turns and share equipment;
- learn to work and play cooperatively and collaboratively.

Spiritual development:

Children will:

- develop and sustain self-esteem;
- develop the early skills of critical thinking and independent thought;
- experience moments of stillness and reflection;
- discuss their feelings and responses to their experiences;
- form and maintain worthwhile friendships;
- begin to be able to reflect upon the wonders and mysteries of life.

Moral development

Children will:

- begin to be able to recognise the uniqueness of each individual;
- listen and respond appropriately to the views of others;
- begin to gain confidence to cope with setbacks and learn from mistakes;
- show consideration of others;
- know right from wrong;
- show respect for the environment;
- show respect for all living things.

Social development

Children will:

- begin to develop a sense of identity and of the groups around them;
- help others in the local community and wider community.

Cultural development

Children will:

- begin to recognise and value richness of our diverse society;
- have the opportunity to engage in activities which support cultural awareness.

Practical activities at Oreston Community Academy that help to develop SMSC:

- Work together in a variety of groups, partners, teams, etc.
- There are opportunities throughout the year for children to work across each class together.
- Be encouraged and supported to behave appropriately at meal times and support other children from each class.
- Begin to take responsibility e.g. Prime Ministers, School Council, Monitors.
- Engage in team work activities not just in PE.
- Show appreciation for the success and performances of others e.g. celebration assemblies.
- Celebrate the arts from around the world e.g. singing, artwork and dance.
- Meet people from different cultures.
- Participate in a variety of educational visits and welcome visitors to the school e.g. visitors from different faiths, visiting the local church, local charity representatives etc.
- Use assemblies to explore a range of themes, festivals, cultures and religions.
- Be exposed to stories and literature from different cultures.
- Resources e.g. role play will include resources representing different cultures.
- Celebrate food from around the world e.g. Orestaurant menu.
- Learn songs and chants from around the world.
- Learn about the contributions to society that people famous and not famous have made.
- Have many opportunities to engage in a variety of afterschool clubs.

Links with the wider community:

Visitors are always welcome to the school having completed all the relevant safeguarding checks.

Close links with the local church are fostered and Reverend Simon Lee joins us for significant Christian events such as Harvest.

Children engage in charity fund raising for local needs and beyond – this includes supporting Hugs for Henry, British Heart Foundation, Children in Need and Comic/Sport Relief. Each September the School Council will research and choose two charities that the school will support for one year – a local and a national charity.

Children are taught and encouraged to look after their local environment and be aware of the wider environment and the effect we have on it.

Children will have the opportunity to enter competitions. E.g. reading scheme during the summer with our local library.

Monitoring and Evaluation

SMSC provision is monitored by book and planning scrutiny, curriculum review, observing teaching and learning with SMSC included in the observation proforma as well as discussions at staff and governor meetings.