

## John Randall Primary School

### Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Policy

#### 1 Aims and objectives

At John Randall Primary School, the fundamental British values: democracy; the rule of law; individual liberty and mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith, are promoted through SMSC. We believe that SMSC is an intrinsic part of all of the curriculum areas and in the general life of the school. We recognise that SMSC plays a significant part in the children's ability to learn and achieve and therefore, provide an education to the children that encourages them to explore and develop their own values and beliefs. We value the importance of each person in our community. Our learning community provides children with the opportunity to feel accepted as a unique and valuable individual.

We value the way in which all children are unique, and our curriculum promotes respect for the views of each individual child, as well as for people of all cultures. We organise our curriculum so that we promote co-operation and understanding between all members of our community.

Our school community is one of caring, sharing and learning with relationships between children, parents, governors and school staff based on mutual trust and respect.

We value the spiritual and moral development of each person, as well as their intellectual and physical growth. We value the rights enjoyed by each person in our society. We respect each child in our school for who they are, and we treat them with fairness and honesty. We aim to enable each person to be successful, and we provide equal opportunities for all the children in our school. We value our environment, and we aim, through our curriculum, to teach respect for our world, and how we should care for it for future generations, as well as our own.

Our ultimate aim and vision when pupils leave our school is that we want them to be confident, but reflective children who fully understand their self-worth and purpose in the world, can make the right choices with a deep understanding of right and wrong, can think creatively in order to develop as their lives change and challenges arise and are proud to belong to their community.

#### 2. Teaching and learning opportunities

The development of SMSC takes place across all curriculum areas and is an integral part of the school environment.

## **Spiritual development**

Spiritual development enables children to explore their beliefs; respect faiths, feelings and values; enjoy learning about themselves and others in the wider world and use imagination and creativity. It allows children the opportunity to reflect on their experiences.

Our curriculum provides children with the opportunity to be curious, while at the same time, develop empathy and respect towards others. Children are encouraged to be considerate to the viewpoints of others. We promote discussions on children's achievements and discuss what they will need to do to be successful in future. As there is a considerable overlap between the programme of study for Religious Education, the children's spiritual development is promoted and incorporated into our Religious Education lessons. Through our Religious Education curriculum (see Religious Education policy), children explore values and beliefs, including religious beliefs. Children are provided with the opportunity to experience moments of reflection. A prayer space is provided in school for a chance for children to reflect.

## **Moral Development**

Moral development involves knowing what is right and wrong and acting on it accordingly. Children are encouraged 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 and to solve differences through communication.

The school environment promotes the children's moral development. Staff and children have a mutual respect for each other and quality interactions and positive relationships are consistently modelled. Children create and agree to class rules which are displayed in each class. Our Behaviour Policy outlines our school expectations. These expectations are displayed in school: be kind to everyone and treat them with respect; work calmly so that everyone can learn and do as we are asked first time. An awards assembly takes place every Friday to celebrate the children's achievements. We have a School Council which allows the children to have a voice and be a part of making decisions.

## **Social Development**

Social development means developing an understanding of rights and responsibilities of living in community-of-being a "responsible citizen" (see also PSHE and Citizenship policy). We encourage children to foster the skills and qualities of team building through the development of self-confidence, co-operation, sensitivity to others, reliability, initiative and understanding in an environment where pupils can take responsibility for themselves and others in school and the wider society.

Social development is celebrated and encouraged through after school clubs, sporting activities and lunch time games. Children take part in school productions in all Key Stages, including Foundation Stage. Team building and collaborative working are encouraged and promoted in the classroom through turn taking, partner talk, peer assessment and through outdoor learning

opportunities. Children are offered opportunities to take part in educational visits including residential experiences. Children are made to feel as part of a learning community in which positive social behaviours are modelled and recognised.

### **Cultural Development**

Cultural development involves gaining knowledge and understanding of other people's cultural traditions. We value and celebrate cultural diversity locally, nationally and internationally. Children are provided with opportunities to listen to stories from other cultures. Children are encouraged and given opportunities to learn how to play instruments from their own and other cultures. Cultural diversity is supported and encouraged as part of our Religious Education curriculum, whereby children learn about and celebrate different religions. Children are encouraged to think about special events in their lives and in the lives of others and how they are celebrated. We have close links with Sutton Hill Church and St Michaels Church and are given opportunities to visit both. Children are taught about how to look after our own environment and are aware of the wider environment and our impact and effect on it. Parents and carers are welcome into school and we value parental involvement. This is reflected in our home school agreement which supports the development of effective partnerships with home and school.

### **3 Promoting SMSC to children with special needs**

We promote SMSC to all children, regardless of their ability. Our teachers provide learning opportunities matched to the individual needs of children with learning difficulties. We take into account the targets set for the children in their Individual provision maps and are respectful to each child as a unique individual.

**Signed: L Aguayo**

**Date: 12.03.2017**