



## **SMSC Policy**

### **Sandal Castle VA Community Primary School**

A Church of England School serving the whole Community

At Sandal Community VA Community Primary School we recognise that the personal development of children, spiritually, morally, socially and culturally, plays a significant part in their ability to learn and achieve. As a Church school, our aims are underpinned by Christian values which are inclusive. We therefore aim to provide an education that provides pupils with opportunities to explore and develop their own values and beliefs, spiritual awareness, high standards of personal behaviour, a positive, caring attitude towards other people, an understanding of their social and cultural traditions and an appreciation of the diversity and richness of other cultures.

#### Introduction

- All curriculum areas have a contribution to make to the child's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and opportunities for this will be planned in each area of the curriculum.
- All adults will model and promote expected behaviour, treating all people as unique and valuable individuals and showing respect for pupils and their families.
- The school community will be a place where pupils can find acceptance for themselves as unique individuals and where forgiveness and the opportunity to start again is fundamental to the Christian ethos and culture of the school.
- Children should learn to differentiate between right and wrong especially where their actions affect other people. They will be encouraged to value themselves and others.
- Children should understand the need for rules and the need to abide by rules for the good of everyone. School and classroom rules should reflect, reiterate, promote and reward acceptable behaviour and provide opportunities to celebrate childrens' work and achievements.

- All curriculum areas should use illustrations and examples drawn from as wide a range of cultural contexts as possible. This will be reflected in teacher's planning and purchasing decisions.

### General Aims

- To ensure that everyone connected with the school is aware of our vision, our Christian values and principles. In particular, Reverence – to show a profound respect for each other, our environment and the global community. Thankfulness – to develop an awareness of and express gratitude for all that we are fortunate to have. Justice - to develop wisdom through insight into the equality of all people, and develop our judgements of right and wrong.
- To enable children to understand the teachings of the Christian faith and other faiths and how they apply to everyday life.
- To ensure a consistent approach to the delivery of SMSC issues through the curriculum and the general life of the school.
- To ensure that a child's education is set within a context that is meaningful and appropriate to their age, aptitude and background.
- To ensure that children know what is expected of them and why.
- To give each child a range of opportunities to reflect upon and discuss their beliefs, feelings and responses to personal experience.
- To enable children to develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.
- To enable children to begin to develop an understanding of their social and cultural environment and an appreciation of the many cultures that now enrich our society.
- To give each child the opportunity to explore social and moral issues, and develop a sense of social and moral responsibility.
- To ensure all children are given opportunities for stillness and reflection, as well as joy and celebration.

## Spiritual Development

*As a Church school we aim to provide learning opportunities that will enable children to:*

- Recognise that they are created in God's image and have significance in the world.
- Understand that they are loved by God and encourage them to “love their neighbour as they love themselves.”
- Have regular opportunities in Collective Worship for children to hear about the teachings of Jesus Christ and to celebrate God's goodness in songs and prayers.
- Sustain their self-esteem/self-respect in their learning experience.
- Develop their capacity for critical and independent thought.
- Foster their emotional life and express their feelings
- Experience moments of stillness and reflection as well as joy and celebration.
- Discuss their beliefs, feelings, values and responses to personal experiences.
- Form and maintain worthwhile and satisfying relationships
- Reflect on, consider and celebrate the wonders and mysteries of life.
- Explore beliefs and experiences; respect values; discover oneself and surrounding world; use imagination and creativity; time to reflect

## Moral Development

*As a Church school we aim to provide learning opportunities that will enable children to:*

- Recognise the unique value of each individual.
- Listen and respond appropriately to the views of others.
- Gain the confidence to cope with setbacks and learn from mistakes.
- Take initiative and act responsibly with consideration for others.
- Distinguish between right and wrong; understand consequences; investigate moral and ethical issues; offer reasoned views.

- Show respect for the environment.
- Make informed and independent judgements.

### Social Development

*As a Church school we aim to promote opportunities that will enable children to:*

- Develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.
- Learn about service in the school and wider community.
- Use social skills in different contexts; work well with others; resolve conflicts; understand how communities work

### Cultural Development

*As a Church school we aim to promote opportunities that will enable children to:*

- Recognise the value and richness of cultural diversity in Britain, and how these influenced individuals and society.
- Develop an understanding of their social and cultural environment.
- Develop an understanding of Britain's local, national, European, Commonwealth and global dimensions.
- Appreciate cultural influences; participate in culture opportunities; understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity

### Teaching and Organisation

Development in SMSC will take place across all curriculum areas, within activities that encourage children to recognise the spiritual dimension of their learning, reflect on the significance of what they are learning, and to recognise any challenges that there may be to their own attitude and lifestyle. We aim to provide a range of opportunities for children to take part in a range of artistic, cultural, sporting, dramatic, musical, mathematical, scientific technological and where appropriate, international events and activities that promote aspects of SMSC development.

All curriculum areas should aim to demonstrate examples drawn from as wide a range of cultural contexts as possible.

Class discussions, debates, P4C , assemblies and circle time will give children opportunities to:

- Talk about personal experiences and feelings
- Express and clarify their own ideas and beliefs
- Speak about difficult events
- Share thoughts and feelings with other people
- Explore relationships with friends/family/others
- Consider others needs and behaviour
- Show empathy
- Develop *self*-esteem/self-respect and a respect for others
- Develop a sense of belonging
- Develop the skills and attitudes that enable pupils to develop socially, morally, spiritually and culturally – empathy, respect, open mindedness, sensitivity, critical awareness,

All curriculum areas provide opportunities to:

- Listen and talk to each other.
- Learn an awareness of treating all as equals
- Agree and disagree.
- Take turns and share equipment.
- Work co-operatively and collaboratively.

### **Links with the wider community**

- Links with the Church are fostered through strong links with St Helens Church and the Diocesan Board of Education.
- We foster and celebrate our strong links with other local places of worship
- Visitors and community members are welcomed into school.
- The development of a strong home-school link is regarded as very important, enabling parents and teachers to work in an effective partnership to support the child/children.
- Children will be taught to appreciate their local environment and to develop a sense of responsibility to it.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

*Provision for SMSC will be monitored and reviewed on a regular basis. This will be achieved by:*

- Monitoring of lesson plans and teaching and learning
- Sharing of classroom work and practice

- Evaluation of Collective Worship with the help of the Vicar of St Helen's, teachers, and other interested parties
- P4C focus
- British Values
- Collation of evidence in children's work
- REQM Gold achieved
- SIAS/SIAMS Inspection outcome – validates outstanding provision

### **Review**

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis