

# *SMSC Policy*



*April 2020*

# SMSC Policy

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## Mission Statement

At St. Anne's, together in faith, we passionately aim to:

Build a loving, vibrant community with Christ at the heart;

- Within our local and global communities, live, share and celebrate God's word and together with the values at the core of our school community.
- Work as one to make a positive difference in all that we do.
- Responsibly keep everyone safe and secure with tolerance and respect.

Celebrate the uniqueness of all and aspire to be more;

- Value the uniqueness and dignity of all individuals and enable them to grow becoming global citizens of our common home.
- To respectfully hear, listen and respond to everyone's voice, thoughts and opinions equally.
- Recognise the individual qualities of the whole person to enable all to live life to the full with courage and compassion.

Through our shared vision and values, nurture knowledge and skills for life-long learning and achievement;

- Build a place where everyone matters and everyone succeeds with high expectations of ourselves and others.
- Develop pupils who grow to care about the world and go on to make a positive difference.
- For children to leave each stage of their learning journey with happy memories, lasting friendships and desire to fulfil their hopes and dreams throughout their lives.

Raising **self-esteem**, with **commitment**, **organisation** and **resilience** we achieve **excellence** as we...

*"Learn to love, Love to learn in readiness for life."*

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## An Introduction to SMSC

SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development) is central to the personal development of a child and plays a significant role in a child's readiness for learning and resulting achievement.

As a Catholic school, we firmly believe that Christ is at the centre of all of our development and learning. We therefore aim to provide a balanced and broad curriculum and further opportunities to allow our pupils to explore and develop:

- Their own values and beliefs.
- Spirituality
- High standards of morals and personal behaviour
- A positive and caring attitude, with tolerance of all members of our community.
- An understanding of social and cultural traditions of their own and of other people.
- An appreciation of diversity and richness of their own and other religions, cultures and traditions.

Although there are opportunities for discrete teaching of knowledge and skills, all curriculum areas play a role in the development of pupil's SMSC awareness. Staff will plan opportunities for SMSC development in all areas of the school curriculum. Coverage of the curriculum and the resources we use to deliver teaching and learning, will reflect and celebrate the diverse global community that we live in.

Adults will model and promote expected behaviour in line with the school's behaviour policy, treating all pupils and members of our school community as unique and valuable individuals, with a high level of respect being shown to all. Our school community is a place where all members will feel safe and accepted for themselves as unique individuals, made in the image and likeness of God.

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Pupils will develop knowledge and understanding of what is right and wrong and how their actions can affect other people. They will understand the need for rules and why we must abide by them to keep ourselves and others safe. School rules reflect, reiterate, promote and reward acceptable behaviour and allow for the celebration of pupil's work and achievements.

## The aims of SMSC at St. Anne's:

- To ensure that everyone connected to the school is aware of our values and principles.
  - To ensure a consistent approach to the delivery of SMSC topics through the curriculum and the general life of the school.
  - To ensure that a pupil's education is set within a context that is meaningful and appropriate to their age, aptitude and background.
    - To ensure that pupils know what is expected of them and why.
    - To give each pupil a range of opportunities to reflect upon and discuss their beliefs, feelings and responses to personal experience.
    - To enable pupils to develop an understanding of their individual and group identity, engaging with the British Values of democracy, the rule of law, liberty, respect and tolerance.
    - To enable pupils to develop an understanding of and respect for their social and cultural environment and an appreciation of and respect for the many cultures that now enrich our society.
    - To give each pupil the opportunity to explore social and moral issues and develop a sense of social and moral responsibility.

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## Spiritual Development

Through spiritual education at St. Anne's, we aim to enable pupils to:

- Sustain their self-esteem 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.
- 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

## Moral Development

Through moral education at St. Anne's, we aim to enable pupils 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 .
- Show respect for the environment.
- Take action for justice.
- Make informed and independent judgments

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## Social Development

Through social education at St. Anne's, we aim to enable pupils to:

- Develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.
- Learn about service in the school and wider community and through education in Citizenship, prepare children fully for life as engaged citizens, able to meet all opportunities, challenges and responsibilities.
- Develop an 'I CAN' philosophy, within a Growth Mind-set approach.
- Develop their out of school hours learning, to play a full and active part in society.

## Cultural Development

Through cultural education at St. Anne's, we aim to enable pupils to:

- Recognise the value and richness of cultural diversity in Britain and the wider world and how these influence 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.
- Encourage the involvement of parents and carers in their children's cultural development.

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## Teaching and Learning

Teaching and learning of SMSC will take place across all curriculum areas. Staff will use resources which reflect the diverse global community that we live in to foster positive attitudes, good understanding and respect of the lives of all members of society.

The Pastoral support that we provide, alongside 'Come and See' RE syllabus, Collective Worship sessions, 'Journey in Love' RSE scheme, Picture News resource, use of the Positive Footprints programme, the PSHE curriculum and children's education of Gospel and British Values provide pupils with opportunities to:

- Talk about personal experiences and feelings.
- Express and clarify their own ideas and beliefs.
- Speak about difficult events, eg bullying, death etc.
- Share thoughts and feelings with other people.
- Explore relationships with friends, families and others.
- Consider others' needs and behaviour.
- Show empathy.
- Develop self-esteem and a respect for others.
- Develop a sense of belonging, both within the school and within the wider community.
- Develop the skills and attitudes that enable pupils to develop socially, morally, spiritually and culturally - eg empathy, respect, open mindedness, sensitivity, critical awareness.
- Listen and talk to each other.
- Learn an awareness of treating all as equals.
- Agree and disagree.
- Take turns and share equipment.
- Work cooperatively and collaboratively.



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## *Opportunities to develop SMSC*

- *Working together in different groupings and situations.*
- *Encouraging the children to behave appropriately at meal times.*
- *Taking responsibility eg, class monitors, delivering messages, Student Council Representatives, Friendship, Sports and Subject Ambassadors and looking after younger children.*
- *Encouraging teamwork in PE, games and out of school hours learning.*
- *Showing appreciation of the performances of other children regardless of their ability.*
- *Hearing music from different composers, cultures and genres.*
- *Meeting people from different cultures and countries.*
- *Participation in a variety of different educational visits.*
- *Links with the local community made through the encouragement of parental involvement in school life.*
- *Participation in live performances.*
- *Use of assembly themes to explore important aspects of our heritage and other cultures e.g. festival days, patron saints and national celebrations.*
- *Studying literature and art from different cultures and religions supported by visits from writers and artists and participating in workshops.*
- *Opportunities for children to hear and see live performances by professional actors, dancers and musicians.*
- *Opportunities to make and evaluate food from other countries.*
- *Opportunities in music to learn songs from different cultures and play a range of instruments.*
- *Studying the contribution made to society that certain famous people have made.*
- *Discussion and debate, engaging in democratic processes and decision making within school and beyond.*
- *Exploration of the nature of rules and laws in decision making, daily life and accountability.*

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## *Links with the wider community*

- All visitors are welcomed to the school - these include religious figures, authors, sports coaches, specialist teachers, drama companies and a range of different workshops.
- Links with local places of worship are fostered through children visiting and visitors coming 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 pupil.
- Pupils are taught to appreciate their local environment and to develop a sense of responsibility

## *Monitoring, Assessment and Evaluation*

Provision for SMSC is monitored and reviewed on a regular basis. This is achieved by the following:

- Monitoring of teaching and learning throughout the curriculum by SLT and subject leaders.
- SMSC next steps being part of the school improvement plan.
- Best practice in SMSC being shared with staff regularly.
- Staff, pupil and parent voice

Outcomes and provision of the SMSC curriculum and learning will also be evaluated by the feedback from members of our local and Parish community. Feedback will also be taken from external agencies and other partners, who have experience of engaging socially and educationally with our children. Feedback regarding the children's contribution to all opportunities, within school and beyond, will be used to inform the whole picture of achievements in SMSC, for individuals and also for groups of children.