



Policy Document

Cliffe Woods Primary School

Social, Moral, Spiritual & Cultural Policy

March 2026

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Aims:

At Cliffe Woods Primary School we recognise that the personal development of pupils, Spiritually, Morally, Socially and Culturally, plays a significant part in their ability to learn and achieve.

Our Aims are:

- To provide a safe, caring and happy environment where each child is valued as an individual and can develop towards his/her full potential.
- To provide for each child a wide, balanced curriculum of high quality, appropriate to the interests and aspirations of the individual encouraging the development of the whole person and fulfilling the requirements of the National Curriculum.
- To develop the potential of each child within his/her capabilities, recognising different needs and abilities and providing challenges and appropriate teaching at each stage of development.
- To set and maintain standards of discipline, courtesy and general moral values so that the school community may function effectively.
- To engender a sense of self-respect, independence and self-motivation. To increase the individual's capacity to accept responsibility for actions taken. To encourage children to recognise their responsibility to and dependence on others to help them become active, reasoning participants in a democratic society.
- To provide a non-sexist, non-racist atmosphere that fosters respect for religious and moral values linked with of acceptance other people, races, religions and lifestyles.
- To foster links between home and school and develop a partnership with parents in the education of their children.

We feel all areas of learning contribute to a child's SMSC development. Therefore, opportunities will be consistently approached through all areas of the curriculum and the general life of the school. All curriculum areas should seek to use illustrations and examples drawn from as wide a range of cultural contexts as possible.



Children will have the opportunity to:

- Share their achievements and successes with others
- Talk about their personal experiences and feelings
- Express and clarify their own ideas
- Speak about the different events appropriate to their age
- 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 socially, morally, spiritually and culturally e.g. empathy, respect and 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

As a school we aim to provide learning opportunities that will enable pupils to:

- develop and sustain self esteem
- develop the early skills of critical thinking and independent thought
- foster their emotional life and express their feelings
- experience moments of stillness and reflection
- discuss their feelings and responses to their personal experiences
- form and maintain worthwhile friendships
- reflect on, consider and celebrate the wonders and mysteries of life.



Moral Development

As a school we aim to provide learning opportunities that will enable pupils to:

- 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
- take initiative and act responsibly with consideration for others.
- know right from wrong
- show respect for the environment
- show respect for all living things
- make informed and independent judgments.

Social Development

As a school we aim to promote opportunities that will enable pupils to:

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

Cultural Development

As a school we aim to promote opportunities that will enable pupils to:

- recognise the value and richness of cultural diversity in Britain, and how these influence individuals and society
- develop an understanding of their social and cultural environment
- have the opportunity to engage in activities which support cultural awareness

Teaching and Organisation

Development in SMSC will take place across all curriculum areas, within activities that encourage pupils 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.

All curriculum areas should seek illustrations and examples drawn from as wide a range of cultural contexts as possible.

Class discussions and circle time will give pupils opportunities to:

- Talk about personal experiences and feelings.
- Express and clarify their own ideas and beliefs.
- Speak about difficult events, e.g. bullying, death etc.
- Share thoughts and feelings with other people.
- Explore relationships with friends/family/others.
- Consider others needs and behaviour.
- Show empathy.
- Develop self-esteem 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 – eg empathy, respect, open mindedness, sensitivity, critical awareness, etc.

Cross-curriculum teaching and learning

- Development in SMSC will take place across all areas of the curriculum.
- SMSC has particularly strong links to Religious Education, Collective Worship, Pastoral Sessions, Relationships and Sex Education and Personal, Social and Health Education.
- All areas of the curriculum will draw examples from as wide a range of cultural contexts as possible.
- In order to develop a strong sense of identity in our pupils, we will use classroom discussion to enable them to:
 - Talk about their experiences and feelings.



- Express and clarify personal ideas and beliefs.
 - Speak about difficult events, e.g. bullying, death.
 - Share thoughts and feelings with other people.
 - Explore relationships with friends/family/others.
 - Consider the needs and behaviour of others.
 - Show empathy.
 - Develop self-esteem and a respect for others.
 - Develop a sense of belonging.
 - Develop the skills and attitudes that enable children to develop socially, morally, spiritually and culturally
 - e.g. empathy, respect, open-mindedness, sensitivity, critical awareness etc.
- Many areas across the curriculum provide opportunities for pupils to:
 - Listen and talk to each other.
 - Learn an awareness of treating all as equals, accepting people who are different because of physical and learning difficulties.
 - Agree and disagree.
 - Experience good role models.
 - Take turns and share equipment.
 - Work co-operatively and collaboratively.
- Practical activities to develop SMSC include:
 - Working together in different groupings and situations.
 - Encouraging the children to behave appropriately at meal times.
 - Taking responsibility e.g. class monitors, lunch monitors, register monitors, assembly monitors, cloakroom monitors, eco warriors, delivering messages and looking after younger children.
 - Encouraging teamwork in PE and games.
 - Appreciation of and respect for the work and performance of other children, regardless of ability.
 - Hearing music from different composers, cultures and genres e.g. in music for reflection time at the start of collective worship.
 - Meeting people from different cultures and countries.
 - Participating in a variety of different educational visits.



- Participation in live performances.
- Using assembly themes to explore important aspects of our heritage and other cultures e.g. festival days, the patron saints and global events.
- Studying literature and art from different cultures supported by visits from writers and artists and participating in workshops.
- Opportunities for the 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 including steel pans and samba.
- Studying the contributions to society that certain famous people have made
- Adhering to the school's core values – Compassion; Integrity; Thankfulness; Respect and Resilience.

Links with the wider community:

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

- We also have links with Family Trust who also come in to lead assemblies.
- We have links with community and faith communities.
- Children engage in charity fund raising for local needs and beyond
- The development of a strong home-school link is regarded as very important at Cliffe Woods, enabling parents and teachers to work in an effective partnership to support the pupil; this is reinforced by the home-school agreement.
- 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



Monitoring and evaluation:

At Cliffe Woods Primary School we listen to the views of our pupils and their parents/carers. We operate an open-door policy for the sharing of views and also have a formal system in place including:

- Regular pupil questionnaires.
- Pupil/teacher meetings.
- Regular parents' questionnaire.
- Parents' evenings/meetings.

SMSC provision is reviewed on an annual basis in the following ways:

- Monitoring of teaching and learning and work scrutiny by the Curriculum Lead, Head of school and governors as part of our general monitoring.
- Regular discussions at staff and governors' meetings.
- Regular policy audits.
- Development of Religious Education, PSHE/RSE and Collective Worship to reflect the diversity of both our school and society.
- Sharing of classroom work and practice.

Promoting Fundamental British Values

Through the national curriculum, we will:

- Teach our pupils a broad and balanced international history.
- Represent the cultures of all of our pupils across the subject.
- Teach a wide range of English and non-English literature.
- Commemorate World War 1 and 2.
- Demonstrate the historical importance of the Commonwealth.

Through our Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural programme, we will:

- Enable students to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence.
- Enable students to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England.



- Encourage students to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely.
- Enable students to acquire a broad general knowledge of, and respect for, public institutions and services in England.
- Further acceptance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling students to acquire an appreciation of, and respect for, their own and other cultures.
- Encourage respect for other people.
- Encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.