



SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL and CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY

1 RATIONALE

St Mary Magdalene C of E Primary School acknowledges that we must provide a curriculum which: (a) promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society, and (b) prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life. (Section 78 Education Act 2002)

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural developments (SMSC) are closely interconnected as they relate to matters of self, others, beauty and beyond. We affirm that 'If the spiritual is properly and fully addressed, the moral, social and cultural will fall into place more easily' (Alan Brown. National Society) At St Mary Magdalene C of E Primary School the promotion of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is promoted through our Loving 4 and Learning 10. Our school recognises and believe that each individual is unique, has their own talents to be celebrated and is valuable in our school community. The Christian character of the school and collective worship

The importance of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development is affirmed in the Mission Statement and Motto of the school, as follows:-

1.1 OUR SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Here at St Mary Magdalene C of E Primary School we aim to educate and develop all children in a happy, caring community, nurtured by Christian values that places individuals at its heart and allows everyone to shine.

We are committed to the welfare and safety of every child.

1.2 SCHOOL MOTTO: 'Love to learn, learn to love'

1.3 VALUES:

In addition to this we believe that Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development is promoted throughout our whole school community through our 'Loving 4' Christian Values.

We *learn to love* through our core Christian Values

Honesty – to each other, to yourself, to God

Respect – for people, for the environment, for faith of self and others,

Responsibility – for each other, for our actions and for the world we share

Aspiration – for ourselves, for others, to live our lives as Jesus taught

2 AIMS

- To promote the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development to enable them to thrive in a supportive, cohesive learning community.
- To provide a Christian environment with our loving 4 at its heart which will enable pupils to become aware of and reflect on their own beliefs and experiences and those of others.
- To develop skills and attitudes that promote respect for all and open-mindedness while celebrating the value and unique talents of every individual.

2 IMPLEMENTATION

2.1. Spiritual Development

At St Mary Magdalene C of E Primary School we believe spiritual development is defined as :-

- An ability to be reflective about their own beliefs, religious or otherwise, that inform their perspective on life and their interest in and respect for different people's faiths, feelings and values
- A sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them
- A use of imagination and creativity in their learning willingness to reflect on their experiences.

At St Mary Magdalene C of E Primary School we promote spiritual development by:-

- The school's climate, ethos, values, behaviour, attitudes and beliefs.
- promoting explicit Christian values clearly linked with Jesus' teaching and the Bible
- Providing pupils with time for reflection and prayer throughout the day.
- showing love and respect for all individuals and their families
- valuing and upholding the well-being of the whole school community
- modelling, celebrating and teaching pride in being a member of the school community
- providing opportunities for the appreciation of arts, literature, music, drama, dance, crafts and design and technology
- developing opportunities for the children to explore their feelings and emotions within a planned, safe and secure environment
- nurturing the gifts and talents of all, promoting participation in extra-curricular activities
- providing opportunities for collaborative group work
- providing opportunities to reflect on their experiences with increasing sensitivity

- Modelling and rewarding examples of kindness and consideration for others.
- Fostering strong relationships between children, staff and stakeholders.
- Creating a climate where pupils and staff understand their own self-worth and are willing to take risks and learn from failure.

2.2 Moral Development

At St Mary Magdalene C of E Primary School we believe moral development is defined as :-

- An ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong and to readily apply this understanding in their own lives, recognise legal boundaries and, in so doing, respect the civil and criminal law of England
- An understanding of the consequences of their behaviour and actions
- An interest in investigating and offering reasoned views about moral and ethical issues and ability to understand and appreciate the viewpoints of others on these issues.

At St Mary Magdalene C of E Primary School we promote moral development by:-

- Working with all staff, parents and stakeholders to ensure fair and high expectations for behaviour.
- Ensuring all staff are good role models, support the school's vision through the school values and are committed to high quality pastoral care of the children.
- Showing children the difference between right and wrong and encouraging and teaching them how to apply this in their own lives.
- Supporting the children to develop an understanding of the consequences of their actions.
- Providing and seizing opportunities as part of Collective Worship and the curriculum to investigate, and offer reasoned views about, moral and ethical issues.
- Promoting a culture of praise and celebrating the achievements of everyone.
- Aiming to make communication open and truthful between all stakeholders.
- Engaging and providing vital opportunities for all to join together collectively for worship. Displaying links to the schools values.
- Through the promotion of British values.

2.3 Social Development

At St Mary Magdalene C of E Primary School we define social development as:-

- The use of a range of social skills in different contexts, for example working and socialising with other pupils, including those from different religious, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds
- A willingness to participate in a variety of communities and social settings, including by volunteering, cooperating well with others and being able to resolve conflicts effectively
- An acceptance and engagement with the fundamental [British values](#) of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs; they develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.

At St Mary Magdalene C of E Primary School we promote social development by

- Offering the children an education rooted in the Christian value of love.
- Teaching explicitly our Loving 4: Honesty, Respect, Responsibility and Aspiration.
- Providing opportunities for the children to be active participants in the local community.
- Promoting a curriculum that encourages independence and supports the development of our Learning ten behaviours.
- Emphasising the importance of collaboration, allowing pupils to work collaboratively in pairs or groups.
- Teaching sportsmanship by encouraging the children to take part in competition and fair play.
- Developing the children's understanding of the place of our church school and how it can make an impact on the wider community - locally, nationally and globally
- Supporting charity and fundraising events to further develop the children's understanding of how to help others on a wider level - outside of the school community and to practise the Christian Value of giving.
- Maintaining good relationships between school and parish which positively exemplify Christian attitudes and values.
- Promoting and being proud of the family feel of our school. E.g. welcoming parents, families and the wider community into school to offer everyone a chance to see our school values in action.
- Through the promotion of British Values and skills for everyday living.
- Ensuring all staff promote and make the school a place where all can flourish, regardless of their background.
- Encouraging the children chance to act on their own initiative and take a lead of their own learning or acting on things that they are passionate about.
- Supporting the children to be an active voice in school improvement particularly through the school council and worship group.
- Planning new social horizons through visits, residential and experiences.
- Providing opportunities to cope confidently in new situations and to learn from their own mistakes.
- Providing a curriculum that gives ample opportunities for children to listen to and see others' points of view and put forward their own views clearly and appropriately

2.4 Cultural Development**At St Mary Magdalene C of E Primary School we define cultural development as:-**

- An understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage and those of others
- An understanding and appreciation of the range of different cultures within school and further afield as an essential element of their preparation for life in modern Britain
- A knowledge of Britain's democratic parliamentary system and its central role in shaping our history and values, and in continuing to develop Britain
- A willingness to participate in and respond positively to artistic, musical, sporting and cultural opportunities
- An interest in exploring, improving understanding of and showing respect for different faiths and cultural diversity and the extent to which they understand, accept, respect and celebrate

diversity, as shown by their tolerance and attitudes towards different religious, ethnic and socio-economic groups in the local, national and global communities.

At St Mary Magdalene C of E Primary School we promote cultural development by

- Maintaining and continuing to strive for excellent partnerships with other local schools and our community.
- Providing opportunities for our children to develop and appreciate a range of cultures especially those different from their own.
- Promoting British values through our curriculum.
- Delivering Modern foreign language lessons in KS2
- By celebrating the diverse backgrounds of all of our children and staff.
- Using key festivals throughout the year as a window to explore the beliefs and cultural practises of ourselves and others.

3 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The provision for SMSC at St Mary Magdalene is monitored by the SMSC subject leader in liaison with the Headteacher and Governing Body.

The SMSC Policy will be reviewed formally every 3 years.