



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

Act justly, Love mercy, Walk humbly

Queniborough C E Primary School

	Date	Signed
This Policy was adopted on	September 2022	
To be reviewed	September 2024	

Our vision statement

*With **JESUS** at our side,
We **ACT** with a sense of right and wrong.
We show **LOVE** by being kind to everyone.
We **WALK** through each day with modesty in all we do.*

1. Aim

At Queniborough Church of England Primary School, we want our pupils to be successful, confident learners and responsible citizens. We recognise the importance of both the academic and personal development and well-being of every child in our school. This includes recognising the importance of providing a range of opportunities for our pupils to respond to that supports their spiritual, moral, social and cultural developments ('Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools' DoE Nov 2014) with an understanding and an overview of the Every Child Matters (Gov.uk) agenda. We embrace Christian and British values. We actively promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

As well as the 7 Christian Values chosen for our school (Belonging, Compassion, Friendship, Honesty, Love, Peace, and Respect) a further 23 Character words are included in our curriculum, with 10 'characters' being considered in each Year Group (see QPS Curriculum – Teaching and Learning Policy).

2. Spiritual development

Spiritual development relates to the quest for individual identity and the search for meaning and purpose in our existence. It is associated with a dimension of life which is not necessarily experienced through the physical senses, but has much more to do with feelings and emotions, attitudes and beliefs. Understanding of self and others is at the heart of spiritual development and is not linked solely to a particular doctrine or faith. Spiritual development is therefore accessible to everyone.

Through spiritual development children are able to look at themselves to understand their own feelings and emotions. This enables them to reflect and learn about their own human relationships, and relationships in the wider world.

The Church of England Education Department have produced a document on 'Spiritual Development. Interpretations of spiritual development in the classroom' Oct 2019.

As a Church school we involve pupils in Christian Spiritual practices including prayer, worship, celebration of festivals, and reading/reflecting on the Bible within Collective Worship, RE and the wider curriculum.

We are committed to:

- celebrating the religious and non-religious beliefs and values that our pupils bring as part of their family/culture heritage and to building an awareness and respect for other people's spiritual and religious beliefs
- fostering common human values and building spiritual capacities to promote self-worth, self-esteem and valuing others
- helping our pupils to come to an understanding of themselves as unique individuals and encouraging them to reflect on ultimate questions
- developing our pupil's curiosity, imagination, creativity and promoting a sense of awe and wonder.

Our learning opportunities enable pupils to:

- be curious and express feelings of delight and wonder
- empathise and consider the viewpoints of others
- consider how a belief can change people's lifestyles by investigating communities and faiths.

3. Moral development

Moral development is concerned with pupils' ability to make judgements about how they should behave and act, and the reasons for such behaviour. It means exploring, understanding and recognising shared values; knowing what is right and wrong and acting on it accordingly.

We encourage our pupils to:

- be truthful and honest
- respect the rights and property of others; to respect their opinions and customs, even when they are different from our own
- help and think of others
- solve differences of opinion in non-violent ways; being able to disagree respectfully.

Consequently we reject all forms of bullying, cruelty, dishonesty, violence and discrimination.

4. Social Development

We aim to help the children to develop the abilities and qualities that they need to acquire to play a full and active part in society so that they can develop an understanding of the rights and responsibilities of living in a community, working effectively together and being a 'responsible citizen'.

We are committed to:

- fostering the skills and qualities of team building throughout the development of self-confidence, co-operation, sensitivity to others, reliability, initiative and understanding
- providing an environment where pupils can take responsibility for themselves and others in school, and the wider society.
- working with others in the local community
- encouraging pupils to take part in fund-raising events for charities.

5. Cultural Development

Cultural development enables pupils to develop an understanding of their own culture as well as acquiring awareness, understanding, respect and tolerance regarding differing cultural beliefs,

customs and traditions of others, locally, nationally and internationally. It also means understanding the value of cultural diversity in society.

We are committed to:

- welcoming others with openness and respect
- promoting an appreciation of our own cultural traditions and encouraging an appreciation of other people's cultural traditions by looking at different foods, dress, festivals, places of worship, etc
- celebrating the richness of culture and tradition.

6. Promoting SMSC at Queniborough CE Primary School

We will ensure the SMSC development of our pupils by:

- providing an appropriate range of effective teaching and learning strategies across the curriculum that enables pupils to reflect on and respond to the issues of Spiritual, Moral, Social development and Cultural importance and concern.
- maintain a climate in school in which all are valued and respected and encouraged to make a positive contribution
- encourage teaching staff to plan for and respond to opportunities for SMSC development, and to ensure subject leaders have an understanding of SMSC education in their subject
- recognising the importance of our Collective Worship programme and School Values in supporting and encouraging SMSC development
- including aspects of SMSC in our Governor visits.

This policy will be reviewed by the Governing Board every 2 years.