

<b>Whitchurch C of E Primary School</b>	Effective Date:	March 2023
<b>Policy and Procedure Statement</b>		
	Revision Date:	March 2026
<b>Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Policy</b>		
<b>Head Teacher</b>	Mrs Cindy Pritchard	
<b>Chair of Governors</b>	Mrs Jo Fisher	

### Vision and Values Prayer

Lord God, together we make a difference with love, courage and respect. With kind actions, words and thoughts we accept everyone for who they are and look after those in need. Help us learn well with curiosity and confidence. Our world is your creation and we will cherish it. Amen

At Whitchurch Church of England Primary School, we recognise that the personal development of children – spiritually, morally, socially and culturally (SMSC) – plays a significant role in their ability to learn, achieve and become responsible citizens. We therefore aim to deliver an education that provides children with opportunities and experiences to develop character and skills linked to these areas which support our Christian ethos and values – Love, Courage and Respect.

SMSC is not a curriculum subject but will be embedded within all aspects of school life, running through the curriculum and beyond into daily school life.

### **Spiritual Development**

Spiritual development is shown by:

- Beliefs, religious or otherwise, which inform their perspective on life and their interest in and respect for different people's feelings and values;
- A sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them, including the intangible;
- Use of imagination and creativity in their learning;
- Willingness to reflect on their experiences and their understanding of others' experiences and beliefs.

At Whitchurch C E Primary we promote pupil's spiritual development by:

- Giving pupils the opportunity to explore values and beliefs, including religious beliefs, and the way in which they impact on people's lives (*e.g. acts of daily worship, visitors, RE, History and PSHE curriculum*)
- Where pupils already have religious beliefs, supporting and developing these beliefs in ways which are personal and relevant to them (*special table in all classes, Prayer Table in communal area, candles lit in worship, daily opportunities provided for reflection, prayer spaces and more*).
- Encouraging pupils to reflect and learn from reflection (*e.g. using the Spiritual grid which is displayed in the classrooms*)
- Giving pupils the opportunity to understand human feelings and emotions, the way they impact on people and how an understanding of them can be helpful (*Literacy, Drama, Music,*

*Dance curriculums, Year Group performances, celebration worship, and special events such as Remembrance Service).*

- Developing a climate or ethos within which all pupils can grow and flourish, respect others and be respected (class charters, Lead Learner, Role of Honour, celebration worship)
- Accommodating difference and respecting the integrity of individuals.
- Promoting teaching styles which: values people's questions and give them space for their own thoughts, ideas and concerns; enable pupils to make connections between aspects of their learning; encourage pupils to relate their learning to a wider frame of reference, for example asking 'why', 'how' and 'where' as well as 'what'.
- Giving value to our Collective Worship and RE lessons, recognising that these events in particular provide opportunities for learning, understanding, and spiritual development.
- Promoting good mental health and wellbeing throughout our provision, including through the use of HeartSmart.

### **Moral development**

Moral development is shown by:

- Ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong and their readiness to apply this understanding in their own lives
- Understanding of the consequences of their actions
- Interest in investigating, and offering reasoned views about moral and ethical issues

At Whitchurch C E Primary we promote pupil's moral development by:

- Providing a clear moral code as a basis for the behaviour which is promoted consistently through all aspects of the school (*relationships and Behaviour Policy, Class Charters, Anti-Bullying Week, acts of worship*)
- Promoting racial, religious and other forms of equality (*Inclusion, Equal Opportunities, SEN policies*)
- Giving pupils opportunities across the curriculum to explore and develop moral concepts and values, for example, personal rights and responsibilities, truth, justice, equality of opportunity, right and wrong (*School Council elections, House Captain elections, 3 key Christian values, RE, English and History curriculum, collective worship*)
- Developing an open and safe learning environment in which pupils can express their views and practise moral decision-making (*School Council, Safeguarding policy and practice, NSPCC Assemblies, E-Safety Assemblies*)
- Rewarding expressions or moral insights and good behaviour (*Celebration worship, Class Charts, Role of Honour*)
- Making an issue of breaches of agreed moral codes where they arise; for example, in the press, on television and on the Internet as well as in school (*PSHE curriculum, HeartSmart, Class Focus Worship*)
- Modelling, through the quality of relationships and interactions, the principles which they wish to promote; for example fairness, integrity, respect for persons, pupils' welfare, respect for minority interests, resolution of conflict, keeping promises and contracts (*Y6 buddies, Celebration worship, Class charters, Circle time, whole school fundraising*)
- Recognising and respecting the codes and morals of the different cultures represented in the school and wider community (*celebration of religious festivals, visitors from other cultures*)
- Encouraging pupils to take responsibility for their actions; for example, respect for property, care of the environment, and developing codes of behaviour (*School Council, Class Charters*)
- Providing models of moral virtue through literature, humanities, sciences, arts, assemblies and acts of worship (*Literacy; History; RE; PSHE; Assembly; Drama*).
- Reinforcing the school's values through images, posters, classroom displays,

## **Social development**

Social development is shown by:

- Use of a range of social skills in different contexts, including working and socialising with pupils from different age groups, religious, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds
- Willingness to participate in a variety of social settings, co-operating well with others and being able to resolve conflicts effectively
- Interest in, and understanding of, the way communities and societies function at a variety of levels

At Whitchurch C E Primary, we promote pupil's social development by:

- Identifying key values and principles on which school and community life is based (*worships based on Christian values, working closely with parents, 'FOWPs' events, whole school fundraising, links with All Hallows Church, cluster schools, sports day*)
- Fostering a sense of community with common inclusive values which ensure that everyone, irrespective of ethnic origin, nationality, gender, ability and religion can flourish (*whole school ethos and shared values*)
- Encouraging pupils to work cooperatively (*Play Leaders, Year 6 buddies,*)
- Encouraging pupils to recognise and respect social differences and similarities (*RE, PSHE curriculum, Pastoral Team*)
- Providing positive corporate experiences; for example, through assemblies, team activities; residential experiences, school productions (*year group performances, year group trips/ events, Y6 and Y4 residential, class sharing work in Celebration Worship, choir and orchestra performances, sporting events and competitions*)
- Helping pupils develop personal qualities which are valued in a civilised society (*thoughtfulness, honesty, respect for difference, moral principles, independence, interdependence, self-respect*)
- Helping pupils to resolve tensions between their own aspirations and those of the group or wider society (*Relationships and Behaviour Policy, Pastoral Team, School Counsellor*)
- Providing a conceptual and linguistic framework within which to understand and debate social issues; providing opportunities for engaging in the democratic process and participating in community life (*School Council Election, House Captain elections*)
- Providing opportunities for pupils to exercise leadership and responsibility (*School Council, Play Leaders, Y6 Buddies*)
- Providing positive and effective links with the world of work and the wider community (*fundraising, sporting tournaments, school open for community sport and other events*)

## **Cultural development**

Cultural development is shown by:

- Understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage
- Willingness to participate in, and respond to, for example, artistic, musical, sporting, mathematical, technological, scientific and cultural opportunities
- Interest in exploring, understanding of, and respect for cultural diversity and the extent to which they understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity, as shown by their attitudes towards different religious, ethnic and socio-economic groups in the local, national and global communities

At Whitchurch C E Primary, we promote pupil's cultural development by:

- Providing opportunities for pupils to explore their own cultural assumptions

Celebrating the attitudes, values and traditions of diverse cultures (*Geography, RE, History, Literacy, Art, Dance, Music curriculums, visitors from different cultural backgrounds*)

- Recognising and nurturing particular gifts and talents (*Sporting competitions, musical concerts and performances*)
- Providing opportunities for pupils to participate in literature, drama, music, art and craft and other cultural events and encouraging pupils to reflect on their significance
- Developing partnerships with outside agencies and individuals to extend pupils' cultural awareness (*Careers Fair, visiting theatre groups, trips to museums, concert performances, links with schools in other countries, themed weeks*)
- Reinforcing the school's cultural values through displays, posters, exhibitions, etc