



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

'There are highly effective strategies in place to develop pupils' confidence and raise their self-esteem. This is particularly important for those potentially vulnerable pupils who join the school part-way through the academic year, some of whom have experienced challenges in their previous schools.'
OFSTED 2018

AIMS

The personal development of pupils spiritually, morally, socially, and culturally plays a significant part in their ability to learn and achieve successfully. At Kingsley St John's we therefore aim to provide an education that provides all God's children with as many opportunities to explore and develop their own values and beliefs, spiritual awareness, high standards of personal behaviour, a positive, caring attitude towards others, an understanding of their social and cultural traditions and an appreciation of the diversity of other cultures as much as possible.

All staff and all curriculum areas have a contribution to the child's SMSC development and opportunities for this will be planned in each area of the curriculum particularly in RE, PSHCE and collective worship. The integrity and spirituality of other faith backgrounds will be respected and explored.

All adults will model and promote expected behaviour, treating all people as valuable, unique individuals and showing respect for pupils and their families. Children should learn to differentiate between right and wrong in as far as their actions affect other people. They will be encouraged to value themselves and others.

Children will begin to understand their rights and responsibilities and the need to respect others. Teachers' planning will reflect this.

Everyone connected with the school will be aware of our values and principles over-arched by our school ethos.

SMSC will be consistently approached through the curriculum and the general life of the school.

The education the children will experience will be set within a meaningful context appropriate to their age, ability and background.

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 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 eg empathy, respect, sensitivity
- Speaking and Listening will be a key aspect in all areas of curriculum learning
- Learn to understand that we are all different and this should be celebrated
- Learn to agree and disagree
- Experience and recognise good role models
- Learn to take turns and share equipment
- Learn to work and play cooperatively and collaboratively

Spiritual development:

Children will

- develop and sustain self esteem
- develop the early skills of critical thinking and independent thought
- experience moments of stillness and reflection
- discuss their feelings and responses to their experiences
- form and maintain worthwhile friendships
- begin to be able to reflect upon the wonders and mysteries of life

Moral development

Children will

- 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
- show consideration of others
- know right from wrong
- show respect for the environment
- show respect for all living things

Social development

Children will

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

Cultural development

Children will

- begin to recognise and value richness of our diverse society
- have the opportunity to engage in activities which support cultural awareness

awareness

A creative and personalised curriculum at Kingsley St John's CE Aided Primary School will help develop SMSC in ALL learners, who will have opportunities to work together in a variety of groups, partnerships and teams. There are opportunities throughout the year for children to work across the whole school range.

Children will

- be encouraged and supported to behave appropriately at meal times
- Begin to take responsibility e.g. taking registers, School Council, Peer

Mentors, Junior Environmental Officers, Junior Road Safety Officers

- engage in team work activities not just in PE
- Show appreciation for the success and performances of others

e.g. celebration assemblies

- Celebrate the arts from around the world e.g. singing, artwork, dance.

Intercultural activities support this in a more concentrated way

- Meet people from different cultures
- Participate in a variety of educational visits and welcome visitors to the school e.g. Paralympic visitors, Around the world week, visiting the local church, celebrating Chinese New Year, fundraising for local charities, London.
- Enjoy a range of live performances e.g. Road Safety puppet shows
- Use assemblies to explore a range of themes, festivals, cultures and religions
- Be exposed to stories and literature from different cultures
- Resources e.g. role play will include resources representing different cultures
- Celebrate food from around the world e.g. Intercultural weeks, Chinese New Year
- Learn songs and chants from around the world
- Learn about the contributions to society that people famous and not famous have made e.g. Florence Nightingale, Dr Barnardo

Have many opportunities to engage in extra-curricular activities such as lunch time clubs (To ensure equality of opportunity the school will offer financial support for children eligible for FSM if the activity has a cost implication)

- The school will also offer financial support for activities beyond the school e.g. swimming for eligible children

Links with the wider community:

Visitors are welcome to the school having completed all the relevant safeguarding checks. Close links with the local church are fostered and Reverend Ron and Curate Hilary are good friends of the school and leads assemblies, along with other members of the Anglican and Methodist Churches. There is a rota basis for our church-led collective worship, which runs alongside SEAL areas. School led collective worship links to Christian Values.

Children engage in charity fund raising for local needs and beyond – this includes supporting 'toilet-twinning', Sport Relief, Comic Relief, Downs Syndrome Awareness, Food banks, Jeans for genes etc!

The home-school agreement supports the development of effective partnerships with home and school

- 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. Junior Environmental Officers lead this and share opportunities with the whole school, including organising Fair Trade Fortnight initiatives.

- Children will have the opportunity to enter competitions locally and nationally, to reach their full potential.
- Homework supports developing knowledge of the local and wider community

Monitoring and evaluation:

SMSC provision underpins all we do at Kingsley St John's and is monitored by planning review, curriculum review, observing teaching and learning, discussions at staff and governor meetings.

Date for Review March 2024