



Longford
C of E Primary School

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

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Indicate whether the document is for public access or internal access only <i>(Strikethrough text, as appropriate)</i>	Public Access – PDF copy to be posted on School website Internal Access Only – copy to be held on School PC <i>A back-up copy of all Policies is retained by the Clerk to the Longford Board of Governors</i>
Indicate which legislation or statutory guidance document requires this Policy	
Summary/Description:	
This document provides Longford Primary School with the guidelines to recognise and provide an education that will assist in the personal development of pupils, spiritually, morally, socially and culturally.	

Policy for Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Values

To be read in conjunction with our Behaviour Policy, Anti-Bullying Policy, Collective Worship Policy, PSHE Policy, RE Policy and Equality Policy objectives and action plan.

At Longford CofE 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. We therefore aim to provide an education that provides pupils with 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 and richness of cultures
- knowledge, understanding and appreciation of British Values.

SMSC is a dimension of the whole school experience which makes the curriculum relevant, stimulating, irresistible, creative and fun. It enriches each subject and the Christian ethos of Longford Primary is an essential ingredient of school success.

Guidelines

All curriculum areas have a contribution to make to the child's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and opportunities for this will be planned in each area of the curriculum.

All adults will model and promote expected behaviour, treating all people as unique and valuable individuals and showing respect for pupils and their families.

The school community will be a place where pupils can find acceptance for themselves as unique individuals and where forgiveness and the opportunity to start again is fundamental to the ethos of the school.

Pupils 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.

Pupils should understand the need for rules and the need to abide by rules for the good of everyone. School and classroom rules should reflect, reiterate, promote and reward acceptable behaviour and provide opportunities to celebrate pupils' work and achievements.

All curriculum areas should seek to use illustrations and examples drawn from as wide a range of cultural contexts as possible. This will be reflected in teacher's planning and purchasing decisions.

Aims

- To ensure that everyone connected with the school is aware of our values and principles.
- To ensure a consistent approach to the delivery of SMSC issues through the curriculum and the general life of the school.
- To ensure that a pupil's education is set within a context that is meaningful and appropriate to their age, aptitude and background.
- To ensure that pupils know what is expected of them and why.
- To give each pupil a range of opportunities to reflect upon and discuss their beliefs, feelings and responses to personal experience.
- To enable pupils to develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.
- To enable pupils to begin to develop an understanding of their social and cultural environment and an appreciation of the many cultures that now enrich our society.
- To give each pupil the opportunity to explore social and moral issues, and develop a sense of social and moral responsibility.
- To ensure each pupil knows what fundamental British Values are and how they apply to our everyday life.

Spiritual Development

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

- Sustain their self-esteem in their learning experience.
- Develop a love of the Christian faith whilst learning, valuing and respecting other world faiths.
- Develop their capacity for critical and independent thought.
- Foster their emotional life and express their feelings
- Experience moments of stillness and reflection.
- Discuss their beliefs, feelings, values and responses to personal experiences.
- Form and maintain worthwhile and satisfying relationships.

- 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:

- Recognise the unique value of each individual.
- Listen and respond appropriately to the views of others.
- Gain the confidence to cope with setbacks and learn from mistakes.
- Take initiative and act responsibly with consideration for others.
- Distinguish between right and wrong.
- Show respect for the environment.
- Make informed and independent judgements.

Social Development

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

- Develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.
- Learn about service in the school and wider community.
- Develop skills of tolerance and acceptance of different needs and opinions.
- Work collaboratively and values others.
- Develop the ability to lose with grace, as well as win.

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 influenced individuals and society.
- Develop an understanding of their social and cultural environment.
- Develop an understanding of Britain's local, national, European, Commonwealth and global dimensions.
- Develop an understanding of fundamental British values.

As a school we recognise the importance of these values because:

- People, staff as well as pupils, achieve better when they feel valued.
- Our beliefs and values influence the way we behave and the community that we live in.
- Education is about the development of the whole person.

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. Teachers will inspire pupils through the enthusiasm for and modelling of learning. Teachers at Longford Primary will use creative strategies and challenging questions to engage pupils in their learning and relate it to their own experiences.

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 – e.g. empathy, respect, open mindedness, sensitivity, critical awareness, etc (for comprehensive list see attached sheet).

Most curriculum areas provide opportunities to:

- Listen and talk to each other.

- Learn an awareness of treating all as equals, and accepting people who are physically or mentally different.
- Agree and disagree.
- Take turns and share equipment.
- Work co-operatively and collaboratively.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Personal development is also enriched through a range of extra-curricular activities (Sport, Drama) which provide opportunities for SMSC and for inspiring pupils to broaden their experience and horizons.

Links with the wider community

- Visitors are welcomed into school.
- The development of a strong home-school link is regarded as very important, enabling parents, teachers and the wider community to work in an effective partnership to make sure that we give our pupils the best possible environment in which to grow, flourish and learn.
- Pupils will be taught to appreciate their local environment and to develop a sense of responsibility to it.
- Sporting events playing alongside and competing against other primary schools.
- Visits to local businesses and places of interest (e.g. Salisbury Cathedral) to support and enrich the learning experience.