

William Cassidi Church of England Primary School

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Policy Statement

*'Life in all Fullness'
(John 10:10)*



As a school, we want to provide children with the very best education. To let them experience life in all its fullness and living with all their heart. Our main core value of love underpins all that we do. Our school is Christ-centred and our core Christian values of love, respect, courage, service and resilience flow through every aspect of school life. It is on this bedrock that we provide an excellent education for the children who attend our school. We want every child to be the very best that they can be and to recognise that they are precious, loved and valued.

Introduction

At William Cassidi Church of England Primary School, we are committed to nurturing the whole child—academically, spiritually, morally, socially and culturally—in a safe, loving, respectful and inclusive Christian environment. We celebrate each individual's potential and encourage all to flourish. This aligns with our school vision:

'I have come that they may have life and life to the full'

John 10:10

SMSC Aims

The SMSC policy aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Develop their spiritual understanding and personal faith within a Christian context.
- Build a strong moral framework rooted in Christian values.
- Grow as socially responsible citizens, who value community and relationships.
- Appreciate cultural diversity and engage respectfully with different beliefs, traditions, and ways of life.

Definition of SMSC

Spiritual Development

Pupils' ability to:

- Reflect on beliefs, values and experiences.
- Explore their relationship with God, themselves, others and the world.
- Develop awe, wonder and an appreciation of creation.
- Experience times of stillness, prayer and worship.

When we refer to spirituality and spiritual development in our school we encourage everyone to have space to breathe, pause, reflect, feel rounded, think about other people and experience awe and wonder. A common language used in the school to articulate spirituality is 'looking in, looking out and looking up'. We

encourage looking 'in' for self-reflection and pausing, looking 'out' whereby we think of others and looking 'up' towards God. For a Christian, spirituality is rooted in developing a relationship with God.

Moral Development

Pupils' understanding of:

- Right and wrong, justice, forgiveness, truth and integrity.
- The consequences of actions.
- The moral teachings of Christianity and other faiths.

Social Development

Pupils' ability to:

- Work and play cooperatively.
- Take responsibility, show initiative and develop leadership.
- Respect others and contribute positively to school and the wider society.

Cultural Development

Pupils' understanding of:

- The heritage, traditions and values of their own and other cultures.
- Artistic, musical, sporting and literary heritage.
- Celebrating diversity in a multi-cultural society.

Implementation of SMSC

SMSC development is embedded in:

Worship and Religious Education:

- Daily Collective Worship, which is distinctively Christian
- Use of the Church calendar and Christian festivals.
- RE curriculum rooted in a variety of religious and non-religious worldviews.

Curriculum and Enrichment:

- All subjects contribute to SMSC through themes such as: identity, values, conflict and creativity.
- Educational visits, residentials and visiting speakers.
- Extra-curricular clubs and community service projects.

Behaviour and Relationships:

- The school behaviour policy is grounded in core Christian values such as: love, service, courage, respect and resilience. This enables our school vision of 'Life in all Fullness' to be lived authentically.
- Peer mediation and restorative justice approaches.
- School council and pupil voice activities.

Wider Community Links:

- Active relationship with the parish council, church and clergy.
- Links with local charities and global citizenship projects.
- Opportunities for intergenerational work and local volunteering.
- Opportunities for formal partnerships with a range of organisations such as: TVMS, Stockton Town Football Club, SSP, local businesses and secondary schools.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- The Headteacher / SMSC lead monitors and evaluates the impact and effectiveness of this aspect of the curriculum. Examples of monitoring include: Pupil voice, learning walks and work scrutiny to inform evaluation and impact of provision.
- SMSC provision is reviewed annually as part of the continuous school improvement cycle.
- Governors, particularly foundation governors, monitor the distinctiveness and effectiveness of SMSC.
- The formal SMSC Policy is reviewed a minimum of every 3 years by the full governing body.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Headteacher ensures strategic leadership of SMSC development.
- RE & Worship Leader supports planning, delivery and monitoring of spiritual development.
- All staff are responsible for modelling the core Christian values of love, respect, service, resilience, courage and promoting SMSC through teaching and relationships.
- Governors provide oversight and accountability, particularly in maintaining the school's Christian ethos.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every three years (as a minimum) by the Headteacher and Governing Body, or sooner if there are significant changes in statutory requirements.

Policy approved by governors: July 2025

Policy renewal: July 2028