

Christ Church C.E, Lark Hill and Lewis Street Primary Schools Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural (SMSC) Policy



	Christ Church C.E.	Lark Hill	Lewis Street
Date	Autumn 2023	Autumn 2023	Autumn 2023
Review Date	Autumn 2025	Autumn 2025	Autumn 2025
Designated Governor	N. Anderton	P. Royle	S. Hornby
Signature			

To be read in conjunction with the following policies:

RE Policy
 Collective Worship Policy (Christ Church only)
 Anti-bullying Policy
 British Values Policy
 Equality and Community Cohesion Policy
 Sex and Relationships Education Policy

Mission Statement

“Love, learn, discover.”

At Christ Church C.E, Lark Hill and Lewis Street Primary Schools our aim is to nurture and empower our learners to achieve their own academic potential and gain the confidence and skills to ensure that they excel at our school, higher education/university and beyond.

Introduction:

At Christ Church C.E, Lark Hill and Lewis Street Primary Schools, the promotion of pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural education is considered to be ‘a whole school issue’. Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development is promoted not only through all the subjects of the curriculum but also through the ethos of the school and through the development of positive attitudes and values. This policy supports and reinforces the school mantra of ‘love, learn, discover’ and is underpinned by the school values.

Principles:

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development is crucial for individual pupils, staff and for society as a whole. We believe it is the heart of what education is all about - helping pupils grow and develop as people. It is an expectation at both schools that all staff, in all subjects, can and should make a contribution to the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development of pupils through the taught curriculum and through the use of appropriate teaching and learning strategies e.g. discussion, reflection, pupil participation, circle time, etc. The importance of relationships between all school staff, parents and governors is crucial. These relationships will be characterised by mutual respect, by positive attitudes, by the willingness to listen and be listened to and by the valuing of all pupils.

General Aims for Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development:

- To promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils in our schools, and to prepare them for life in modern Britain.

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- To prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.
- To promote respect and consideration for differences in gender, race, religion.
- To help each pupil achieve their full potential across all areas of the curriculum.
- To develop the individual strengths of all pupils and to help and provide support in areas for development.
- To inspire and stimulate the pupils in order to foster a love of learning and enquiry, to reason rationally and to apply themselves to tasks and physical skills.
- To help our pupils towards independent learning and to equip them with all life skills in order for them to take their place in a fast changing society.
- To ensure there is continuity and progression in skills, knowledge and understanding in all areas of the curriculum.
- To develop respect for religious and moral values and understanding of other races, religions and ways of life.
- To help the pupils understand the world in which they live.
- To develop a sense of responsibility, consideration for others, self-respect and self-confidence.
- To promote good relationships between home, school and the local and wider communities.

Spiritual Development:

We strive to support the children in the development of their spiritual life so that through reflection, they will acquire insights and attribute meaning and purpose to personal existence. Children's spiritual development involves the growth of their sense of self, their unique potential, their understanding of their strengths and weaknesses, and their will to achieve. As their curiosity about themselves and their place in the world increases, they try to answer for themselves some of life's fundamental questions. They develop the knowledge, skills, understanding, qualities and attitudes they need to foster their own inner lives and non-material well-being. We believe that this begins with a personal, experience of our school values and Christian values (Christ Church only). We teach these through:

Objectives for Spiritual Development:

- To develop the skill of being physically still, yet alert.
- To develop the skill of being mentally still, concentrating on the present moment.
- To develop the ability to use all ones senses.
- To promote an awareness of and enjoyment in using ones imaginative potential and to develop curiosity and a questioning approach – discussing issues and themes.
- To encourage quiet reflection during a lesson or assembly, reflecting on good things and what can be improved.
- To reflect on own behaviour and situations which are disturbing them.
- To promote self-image and develop positive self-esteem, respect for themselves and find an inner confidence and peace.
- To have the opportunity to develop personal beliefs.
- To explore the opportunity to pray/reflect.

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- To know own strengths and acknowledge that they can't do everything but will be better at something.
- To promote the ability to keep trying and seeking success.

Moral Development:

Pupils are encouraged to understand the need for a common code and to follow it from conviction rather than because of sanctions or consequences. At Christ Church C.E, Lark Hill and Lewis Street Primary Schools we work towards an understanding of what is right and wrong and understand the principles lying behind decisions and actions. From this basis pupils may develop the ability to make judgements and to become increasingly responsible for their own actions or and behaviour. At the heart of the school's moral teaching lies the understanding that we love because we are loved. How we reflect upon our love and our relationships with others is crucial to our moral development.

Objectives for Moral Development

- To tell the truth.
- To respect the rights and property of others.
- To help others less fortunate.
- To be considerate.
- To take responsibility.
- To keep promises.
- To develop high expectations and a positive attitude.
- To conform to rules and regulations to promote order for the good of all and to understand that there are consequences to our actions.
- To treat others as they would wish to be treated themselves.

Social Development:

This enables pupils to become conscientious participants in their family, class, school, the local and wider community. Within this there should be a balance of the positive, satisfying elements of belonging to a group or society along with the demands, obligations and cooperation such membership requires. It is part of the school's responsibility to support pupils and their families in the formation of good social attitudes. The school community will nurture our pupils to relate positively to others and learn about the obligations, constraints and satisfaction that go with membership of a group or community; to become aware of their own identity as individuals and to take account of the feelings of other; to participate fully and take responsibility in school; to participate in a supportive way in group and school activities so as to develop co-operative skills that will help all to live with each other and to learn what it means to be a responsible citizen.

Objectives for Social Development

- To share emotions such as love, joy, hope, anguish, fear and reverence.
- To be sensitive to the needs and feelings of others.
- To work as part of a group.

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- To interact positively across a range of situations, e.g. clubs, sports activities, visits, church services, music festivals etc.
- To develop an understanding of citizenship and to experience being a part of a caring community.
- To show care and consideration for others e.g. sharing and turn taking.
- To realise that every individual can do something well and have something to offer.
- To understand that saying sorry may also needs to be accompanied by a change in behaviour.

Cultural Development:

At the heart of cultural development lies the necessity to develop a sense of personal identity, whilst at the same time acquiring awareness, understanding and tolerance regarding the cultural traditions and beliefs of others. The aims of cultural development include developing a sense of belonging to pupils' own culture, including traditions of our society, and being proud of their cultural background.

Objectives for Cultural Development

- To develop an awareness, recognition and appreciation of the Arts, i.e. Music, Art, Drama, Literature etc... as regards cultural events; experiences and traditions.
- To develop a love for learning.
- To develop an understanding of different cultures and beliefs.
- To appreciate the values and customs of ethnic and faith groups which make up modern British society, and the world beyond.
- To develop the ability to value these independently.

Implementation:

The promotion of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development of each child is seen as the responsibility of all members of staff. Much of this development should be assimilated through the ethos of the school. However, there are many opportunities within cross curricular work to focus on the aims and objectives outlined. All children regardless of gender, ability or social background will receive the same teaching with each of their views being taken into account.

Many curriculum areas provide opportunities to:

- listen and talk to each other
- learn an awareness of treating all as equals, accepting people who are different because of physical and learning difficulties
- agree and disagree
- experience good role models
- take turns and share equipment
- work co-operatively and collaboratively

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Practical activities to develop SMSC will include:

- working together in different groupings and situations
- encouraging the children to behave appropriately at meal times
- taking responsibility e.g. playground buddies
- encouraging teamwork in PE and games
- appreciation of and respect for the work and performance of other children

Monitoring and Evaluation:

Provision for SMSC is monitored and reviewed regularly. This is achieved by:

- Evaluating SMSC, in every lesson observation, following Ofsted guidelines.
- Pupil consultations.
- Learning walks.
- Following our assessment and monitoring cycle.