

Wheatley Lane Methodist Primary School Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Education Policy



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Mission Statement

We provide quality first teaching in a loving Christian environment where everyone is respected and valued as a unique child of God.

Safeguarding Statement

Wheatley Lane Methodist Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the physical, mental and emotional welfare of every pupil both inside and outside of the school premises. We implement a whole-school preventative approach to managing safeguarding concerns, ensuring that the wellbeing of pupils is at the forefront of all action taken.

Vision

With God's help, we do all we can to be the best we can be.

Intent

At Wheatley Lane Methodist Primary School, we recognise our school context and have designed our curriculum with the intent that pupils build the secure foundations required to become successful and aspirational adults who seek opportunities, take responsibilities as moral citizens and gain life experiences that extend their horizons. We want children to leave school as 'well rounded' individuals.

The school vision ***'With God's help, we do all we can to be the best we can be'*** is interwoven within our curriculum intent and design.

At Wheatley Lane Methodist Primary School, we aim to help children to develop an inner discipline and will encourage them to not just 'follow the crowd' – they will make up their own minds and live their lives to the full. They will grow through making choices and being proud of the choices that they have made or reversed. They will want to be honest with themselves and with others. The Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education of pupils at Wheatley Lane Methodist Primary School is cross-curricular and not limited to specific SMSC lessons. It is underpinned by the vision of the school to 'be the best we can be'.

Aims

- To provide a safe, caring and happy environment where each child is valued as an individual and can develop towards his/her full potential.
- To provide for each child a wide, balanced curriculum of high quality, appropriate to the interests and aspirations of the individual, encouraging the development of the whole person and fulfilling the requirements of the National Curriculum and the school's vision.
- To develop the potential of each child within his/her capabilities, recognising different needs and abilities and providing challenges and appropriate teaching at each stage of development, while aspiring for a life that is lived in its fullness
- To set and maintain standards of discipline, courtesy and general moral values so that the school community may function effectively in a culture where everyone loves and is loved, without limits.
- To engender a sense of self-respect, independence and self-motivation. To increase the individual's capacity to accept responsibility for actions taken. To encourage children to recognise their responsibility to and dependence on others to help them become active, reasoning participants in a democratic society.
- To provide a non-sexist, non-racist atmosphere that fosters respect for religious and moral values linked with understanding of other people, races, religions and lifestyles.

- To foster links between home and school and develop a partnership with parents in the education of their children.
- To live out the vision of the school through their daily actions and decision making.

1. Related policies

- 1.1. Safeguarding Policy.
- 1.2. E-safety Policy.
- 1.3. Behaviour Policy.
- 1.4. Anti-bullying Policy.
- 1.5. Health and Safety Policy.
- 1.6. Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy.
- 1.7. Supporting Pupils with Medical Needs Policy.
- 1.8. Collective Worship Policy
- 1.9. RE Policy

2. Guiding principles

2.1. Spiritual development

The spiritual development of pupils is shown by their:

- Ability to be reflective about their own beliefs, religious or otherwise, that inform their perspective of life and their ability to live without limits.
- Interest in, and respect for, different people's faiths, feelings and values.
- Sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them – developing a sense of awe and wonder.
- Use of imagination and creativity in their learning.
- Willingness to reflect on their experiences.
- Ability to engage purposefully with their classroom reflection area.

2.2. Moral development

The moral development of pupils is shown by their:

- Ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong, readily apply this understanding in their own lives and, in so doing, respect the civil and criminal law of England. (British Values)
- Ability to recognise the values that others display and having the desire to reward their peers through weekly nominations.

- Suggestions and enthusiasm for whole school reward systems that reward behaviours, attitudes and values in addition to academic success.
- Understanding of the consequences of their behaviour and actions.
- Interest in investigating and offering reasoned views about moral and ethical issues, and being able to understand and appreciate the viewpoints of others on these issues.

2.3. **Social development**

The social development of pupils is shown by their:

- Use of a range of social skills in different contexts, including working and socialising with pupils from different religious, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds.
- Willingness to participate in a variety of community and social settings, including by volunteering, cooperating well with others and being able to resolve conflicts effectively.
- To live out the school's vision to be the best they can be.
- Ability to use modern communication technology, including mobile technology, the internet and social media, safely.
- Acceptance and engagement with the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. The pupils should also develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in, and contribute positively to, life in modern Britain.
- Ability to play together, promoting fairness, in group games and imaginative play at break and lunchtimes
- To live out the teachings of John Wesley, 'I look upon all the world as my parish.'

2.4. **Cultural development**

The cultural development of pupils is shown by their:

- Understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage and that of others – including our school's Methodist Heritage.
- Understanding and appreciation of the range of different cultures within the school, and further afield, as an essential element of their preparation for life in modern Britain and a contributing factor to loving others, without limits.
- Knowledge of Britain's democratic parliamentary system and its central role in shaping our history and values, and in continuing to develop Britain.
- Willingness to participate in and respond positively to: artistic, sporting and cultural opportunities.
- Interest in exploring, improving understanding of, and showing respect for, different faiths and cultural diversity.

Understanding, acceptance, respect and celebration of diversity, as shown by their tolerance and attitudes towards different religious, ethnic and socio-economic groups in the local, national and global communities. School to provide opportunities through Pendle Building Bridges Network.

3. Cross-curriculum teaching and learning

- 3.1. Development in SMSC will take place across all areas of the curriculum.
- 3.2. SMSC has particularly strong links to Religious Education, Collective Worship, Pastoral Sessions and Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE).
- 3.3. All areas of the curriculum will draw examples from as wide a range of cultural contexts as possible.
- 3.4. In order to develop a strong sense of identity in our pupils, we will use classroom discussion to enable them to:
 - Talk about their experiences and feelings.
 - Express and clarify personal ideas and beliefs.
 - Speak about difficult events, e.g. bullying, death.
 - Share thoughts and feelings with other people.
 - Explore relationships with friends/family/others.
 - Consider the needs and behaviour of others.
 - Show empathy.
 - Develop self-esteem and a respect for others.
 - Develop a sense of belonging.
 - Develop the skills and attitudes that enable children to develop socially, morally, spiritually and culturally e.g. empathy, respect, open-mindedness, sensitivity, critical awareness etc.
- 3.5. Many areas across the curriculum provide opportunities for pupils to:
 - Listen and talk to each other.
 - Learn an awareness of treating all as equals, celebrating difference and accepting we are all special and unique
 - Agree and disagree with respect
 - Experience good role models.
 - Take turns and share equipment.
 - Work co-operatively and collaboratively.
 - Know it is ok not to be ok sometimes
 - Learn self-regulation strategies that work for them
 - Recognise, listen to and respond to the mental and physical health needs of their own bodies, in a safe way

3.6. Practical activities to develop SMSC include:

- Working together in different groupings and situations.
- Encouraging the children to behave appropriately at meal times.
- Taking responsibility e.g. class monitors, lunch monitors, register monitors, assembly monitors, cloakroom monitors, delivering messages and looking after younger children, being elected on a council.
- Encouraging 'sportsmanship'.
- Appreciation of and respect for the work and performance of other children, regardless of ability.
- Hearing music from different composers, cultures and genres e.g. in music for reflection time at the start of collective worship.
- Meeting people from different cultures and countries.
- Participating in a variety of different educational visits.
- Participation in live performances.
- Using assembly themes to explore important aspects of our heritage and other cultures e.g. festival days, the patron saints and global events.
- Studying literature and art from different cultures supported by visits from writers and artists and participating in workshops.
- Opportunities for the children to hear and see live performances by professional actors, dancers and musicians.
- Opportunities to make and evaluate food from other countries.
- Opportunities in music to learn songs from different cultures and play a range of instruments including steel pans and samba.
- Studying the contributions to society that certain famous people have made.

4. Community links

4.1. Wheatley Lane Methodist Primary School has strong links with the wider community.

4.2. In order to develop these links, Wheatley Lane Methodist Primary School reaches out to the community through the following activities:

- Parents invited to class worship and assemblies
- PTFA events
- Worshipping with the Methodist Church
- Nativities and Carol Concert
- Support for local charities
- Participation in sports events

- Choir performances in church and the local area
- Annual school theatrical performance in Y5/6 at Colne Hippodrome
- Music Showcase assemblies
- Dedicated pastoral team support families
- Rotakids
- Signposting to clubs where children develop or show a particular talent for

5. Monitoring and Evaluation

5.1. At Wheatley Lane Methodist Primary School, we listen to the views of our pupils and their parents/carers. We operate an open door policy for the sharing of views and also have a formal system in place including:

- Annual pupil questionnaire.
- Pupil/teacher meetings.
- Annual parents' questionnaire.
- Parents' evenings/meetings.
- Parent workshops and updates on curriculum changes

5.2. SMSC provision is reviewed in the following ways:

- Monitoring of teaching and learning and work scrutiny by the Headteacher/Leadership Team as part of our general monitoring.
- Regular discussions at staff and governors' meetings.
- Regular policy audits.
- Development of Religious Education, PSHE and Collective Worship to reflect the diversity of both our school and society.
- Sharing of classroom work and practice.

6. Promoting fundamental British values

6.1. **Through the National Curriculum, we will:**

- Teach our pupils a broad and balanced international history.
- Represent the cultures of all of our pupils across the subject.
- Teach a wide range of English and non-English literature.
- Commemorate World War 1 and 2.

6.2. **Through our Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural programme, we will:**

- Enable students to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence.

- Enable students to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England.
- Encourage students to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely.
- Enable students to acquire a broad general knowledge of, and respect for, public institutions and services in England.
- Further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling students to acquire an appreciation of, and respect for, their own and other cultures.
- Encourage respect for other people.
- Encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.