



## St Andrew's Academy

### **SMSC at St Andrew's Academy**

#### **Introduction**

This policy outlines the teaching, learning organisation and management of SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) at St Andrew's Academy relates to the school mission statement. It supports and enforces the aims of the academy. The implementation of the policy is the responsibility of all teachers and all support staff who are involved directly with teaching and learning on a day to day basis. The responsibility for monitoring the effectiveness of the policy rests with the subject leader and the senior leadership team.

#### **Vision and aims**

Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural (SMSC) development supports St Andrew's Academy's vision and values; building the foundations for all students to flourish and lead fulfilling and purposeful lives. It supports creativity, enquiry, independence, responsibility and self-awareness preparing our young people for their future as respectful individuals, life-long learners and active citizens in society. SMSC works in tandem with our 'Learning for Life' curriculum and 'Inspiring futures' curriculum.

#### **We teach SMSC throughout all subject areas to:**

- Develop executive functioning skills.
- Develop self-awareness and confidence in their own decision making.
- Develop independent thinking and co-operative skills.
- Encourage our students to raise questions which lead them to search for their own answers to make sense of what they consider to be the real world.
- Stimulate them by effective questioning, by both supporting and challenging their thinking.
- Develop reflection and questioning skills.
- To foster curiosity, stimulate imagination and excite a fascination in the world around them.
- Encourage students to consider Rights, Roles and Responsibilities.
- Develop respect and integrity.
- Develop an awareness of the diversity and rich culture in our world.
- Encourage our students to engage with a variety of cultures and traditions.

### **Through SMSC learning opportunities students will:**

- Have an individualised approach to meet their needs.
- Engage with a variety of learning experiences that encourage awe and wonder.
- Use their imagination and think creatively.
- Understand that choices carry consequences and that every person has rights and responsibilities.
- Develop the ability to make choices and to value the importance of rules.
- Respect the differences between people regardless of culture, race, socio-economic background, ability or gender.
- Develop effective and satisfying relationships.
- Play an active role within the school and the wider community.
- Begin to develop a global perspective.
- Reflect on personal experiences and opinions as well as the views of others.
- Discuss issues that affect our world e.g. environmental, racial, etc.
- Be collaborative.

### **Through SMSC we can also:**

- Develop students thinking skills.
- Provide specific opportunities to develop speaking and listening skills and effective communication.
- Promote students awareness understanding of gender, cultural, spiritual and moral issues.
- Develop the use of our learning tools for life to enable students to communicate, collaborate, persevere, question, reflect, use their initiative and be flexible.

### **When teaching SMSC we:**

- Provide awe and wonder opportunities on a daily basis.
- Provide our students with experiences that may be new to them.
- Adapt teaching to meet the needs of all students.
- Use a variety of learning and teaching styles to suit every learner e.g. discussions, personalised communication, circle time, roleplay, engaging with multi-media resources and engaging with visitors and representatives from the local community.
- Provide hands on experiences wherever possible, both within and outside of the classroom.
- Provide practical activities that encourage pupil participation throughout the whole school.
- Provide problem solving activities.
- Provide time for reflection, reviewing and evaluating.
- Provide moments within the curriculum for silence, 'stillness' and opportunities to appreciate the world in which we live.

### **Planning**

SMSC is taught and integrated throughout all areas of the curriculum and across all Key Stages. Each lesson contains an element of SMSC. SMSC opportunities are recorded on our curriculum overviews and link closely in with our PSHE and RSE curriculum. The PSHE Co-ordinator and members of the SLT are responsible for monitoring and developing SMSC learning opportunities across the whole school.

### **Equal Opportunities**

At St Andrew's academy we are committed to providing all our young people with an equal entitlement to SMSC learning opportunities regardless of race, culture, gender or socio economic circumstances. SMSC can be used to challenge stereotypes. Therefore, teachers ensure that learning opportunities provide a balance of representations of gender, culture, and ability. We believe that it is very important to raise the awareness of other cultures so that our young people may grow to be sensitive, tolerant and informed members of society.

### **Inclusion**

We teach SMSC to all our students, whatever their ability, to encourage the development of the whole person. We provide learning styles and opportunities that allow all young people to make progress.