



St NICHOLAS

C of E Primary School, Alcester

1.0 DEFINITION

St Nicholas C of E Primary School nurtures the very best in each individual, providing a high standard of learning. Our values encourage care for all, mutual respect, responsibility, and strong partnerships between school, home, and the local and wider communities.

We strive to promote the Spiritual, Moral, Social, and Cultural (SMSC) development of our pupils and prepare them for the opportunities, responsibilities, and experiences of adult life in modern Britain.

The staff and governors value the best possible partnership between parents/carers and the wider community and recognise the importance of promoting the support they offer, to the benefit of all our pupils.

SMSC development is promoted through all subjects of the curriculum, the ethos of the school, positive attitudes and values, and planned times for reflection. This policy supports and reinforces the aims of the school, valuing all children and staff equally and as individuals.

2.0 PRINCIPLES

SMSC development is crucial for individual pupils and for society as a whole. We believe it lies at the heart of education—helping pupils grow and develop as people.

SMSC is woven into the curriculum, promoting the aims and principles of PSHE, RE, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), British Values, and the Equality and Diversity Policy, all of which put the child at the centre of all we do.

All staff, in all subjects, are expected to contribute to the SMSC development of pupils through the taught curriculum and through teaching and learning strategies such as discussion, reflection, pupil participation, circle time, and collective worship.

Relationships between staff, pupils, parents, and governors are characterised by mutual respect, positive attitudes, willingness to listen and be heard, and valuing of every pupil.

3.0 PROMOTING BRITISH VALUES

St Nicholas C of E Primary School actively promotes the fundamental British Values of:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

These values are embedded across our curriculum and school life, preparing pupils to participate fully in life in modern Britain.

4.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

Our SMSC provision supports the school's responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010, promoting equality of opportunity and fostering good relations across all protected characteristics, including age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, and pregnancy and maternity.

5.0 CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT AND RESILIENCE

Our SMSC curriculum aims to develop pupils' character, including resilience, perseverance, confidence, and independence, equipping them with the personal qualities needed for future success.

6.0 ONLINE SAFETY

As part of moral and social development, pupils are taught about responsible online behaviour, respecting others online, and understanding how to stay safe in the digital world.

7.0 SAFEGUARDING AND SMSC

SMSC education contributes to safeguarding by promoting respectful relationships, understanding personal boundaries, celebrating diversity, and ensuring pupils know how to seek help when needed. This supports our commitment to maintaining a safe, inclusive school environment.

8.0 SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Spiritual development relates to the quest for individual identity and the search for meaning and purpose in our existence. It is about feelings, emotions, attitudes, and beliefs. It is not linked solely to any particular faith and is therefore accessible to everyone.

Aims:

- The ability to listen and be still
- The ability to reflect
- The ability to sense wonder and mystery in the world
- The ability to sense the special nature of human relationships

Objectives:

- Develop skills of stillness and alertness
- Use all one's senses
- Develop imagination
- Encourage quiet reflection throughout the day
- Build individual self-confidence

9.0 MORAL DEVELOPMENT

Pupils are encouraged to understand the need for a common code, following it from conviction rather than fear of sanctions. This supports pupils in making judgements and taking responsibility for their actions and behaviour.

Aims:

- Understand principles behind decisions and actions
- Distinguish between right and wrong
- Make decisions and accept consequences
- Move from 'taught morality' to personal responsibility

Objectives:

- Tell the truth
- Respect others' rights and property
- Help those less fortunate
- Be considerate and exercise self-discipline
- Develop high expectations and positive attitudes
- Conform to rules and regulations for the good of all

10.0 SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Social development enables pupils to participate conscientiously in family, class, school, and local, wider, and global communities. Pupils experience the benefits and responsibilities of belonging to groups and societies.

Aims:

- Understand principles behind decisions and actions
- Distinguish right from wrong
- Accept consequences of decisions
- Take responsibility for moral decisions

Objectives:

- Share emotions such as love, joy, hope, fear
- Be sensitive to others' needs
- Work effectively in groups
- Interact positively in clubs, visits, church services, etc.
- Develop understanding of citizenship and community

- Show care and consideration for others
- Recognise individual talents and contributions

11.0 CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Cultural development involves building a sense of personal identity while understanding and respecting the traditions and beliefs of others.

Aims:

- Develop pride in one's own culture
- Respond to cultural events
- Share cultural experiences
- Respect different traditions
- Balance retaining Christian traditions with valuing other cultures' contributions

Objectives:

- Appreciate the arts (music, art, drama, literature)
- Develop a love of learning
- Understand different cultures and beliefs, including Christianity
- Value and appreciate the customs of other ethnic and faith groups in British society and beyond

12.0 GENERAL AIMS FOR SMSC DEVELOPMENT

St Nicholas C of E Primary School ensures a broad and balanced curriculum:

- Promote pupils' spiritual, moral, cultural, mental, and physical development
- Prepare pupils for opportunities, responsibilities, and experiences of adult life
- Promote respect and consideration for differences in gender, race, and religion
- Help each pupil achieve full potential across the curriculum
- Inspire a love of learning, reason, and application of knowledge and skills
- Foster independent learning and life skills for a changing society
- Ensure continuity and progression in knowledge and skills
- Develop respect for religious and moral values and understanding of others
- Help pupils understand the world in which they live
- Promote responsibility, self-respect, self-confidence, and consideration for others
- Strengthen relationships between home, school, and the community

13.0 MONITORING AND REVIEW

An audit of SMSC provision will be conducted annually. The outcomes of the audit will inform curriculum planning, staff professional development, and the school's self-evaluation processes to continually improve SMSC provision.

