

SMSC opportunities in English

Spiritual	Moral	Social	Cultural
<p>Developing deep thinking and questioning through English about the way in which the world works promotes spiritual growth.</p> <p>We aim to give all students an appreciation of the richness and power of literature and communication.</p> <p>We promote a sense of wonder in the power and energy of language, examining how language exists in our everyday world and how it can both change and represent people's beliefs and worldviews.</p> <p>We aim to be consistently enthusiastic about the subject and to use a range of teaching strategies that allow pupils to be creative and imaginative.</p> <p>Through the study of literature and non-fiction texts, students develop and showcase their skills, knowledge and experiences of the world and the human condition. In English, we reflect and develop an increased sense of identity and self-worth.</p>	<p>Within the classroom, we encourage respect and reward good behaviour. We value listening to others' views and opinions and ideas on different topics. We explicitly support students in how to develop their expression of these views.</p> <p>Students are given the chance to be aware of social class divides and prejudice. Students are made aware of bias and opposing arguments, and therefore are taught that they should never assume that what they read in the media is factual. They also explore the idea of "fake news" and the moral obligation media outlets should have.</p> <p>In our subject, we explore social class, gender and race discrimination in texts such as An Inspector Calls, The Ruby in the Smoke, Noughts and Crosses, A Christmas Carol and more.</p> <p>We promote discussions, debates and presentations on topical issues, supporting students to question information that they are presented with.</p> <p>We reflect on the challenges of morality in scientific developments and how these are presented in literature, such as Frankenstein and Jekyll and Hyde.</p> <p>Our focus for Our World, Our Thoughts revolves around moral issues in life and how people can be affected, such as racism in football and sexism in the media, stereotyping in children's literature and fairy tales.</p>	<p>Social values are explored through our core concepts across all years.</p> <p>In the classroom, we look for opportunities for students to use mini whiteboards to promote self-esteem and build self-confidence.</p> <p>We encourage collaborative learning in the classroom – in the form of listening and learning from each other and paired discussion / working partners in order to show that the result is often better than they could achieve alone.</p> <p>We help students develop their voice and powers of rhetoric, reasoning and explanation by offering explanations to each other. We exhibit students' work in classrooms on working walls and displays to share their good practice and celebrate achievement.</p> <p>We hope to enable our students to enjoy their success in English and will celebrate accordingly whilst supporting any areas for development through interventions as and when required. Social development is aided further by encouraging students to break tasks into smaller manageable parts, often with the assistance of other students.</p>	<p>English involves reading, thinking and writing critically and creatively. It also enhances students' understanding of a wide range of cultures and traditions. The study of English helps students understand how people communicate and sharpens their analytical skills which are vital for a wide range of careers.</p> <p>Study of conflict and literacy heritage poetry allows students to understand different cultures and experiences.</p> <p>We read and discuss speeches from notable figures across different historical, social and cultural contexts. We incorporate a wide range of texts including world myths, which leads to discussions around various cultures, which can be handled effectively and sensitively by the member of staff.</p> <p>We reflect on the impact of contemporary culture and contexts in society, and how this is reflected in literature.</p>

British Values opportunities in English

Democracy	The rule of law	Individual liberty	Respect	Tolerance of those with different faiths
<p>Students are taught base definitions of democracy, and how this can be seen in different literary texts. Discussions are encouraged around the ideas of democracy, for instance in the Dystopian fiction unit, examples of totalitarian governments are contrasted with democratic ones, and students are encouraged to discuss their opinions on these different systems.</p> <p>Students examine examples of sexist, racist, or other discriminatory treatments in literature and real-world examples (for example, Nelson Mandela, taught through his famous speeches) and how this contradicts core components of democracy.</p>	<p>Students will be consistently reminded of the importance of abiding by the law.</p> <p>Some situations in which these reminders can arise:</p> <p>News articles: reports of criminal activities and consequences</p> <p>Lord of the Flies: through exploration of what life could be like with no rules or laws, this text causes students to examine the purpose and role of law within society</p> <p>Jekyll and Hyde: students are involved in discussions of law-breaking and hidden human nature, linking repressing "immoral" desires to committing crimes</p>	<p>Encouraging and allowing discussions and debates around the importance of individual liberty and repercussions when it is restricted.</p> <p>Several non-fiction texts allow us to examine real world historical examples of this, such as the Suffragettes movement and the Civil Rights Movement. Language is also linked to the protection of individual liberty and the role of how language can argue back against such restrictions.</p>	<p>Students will consistently show respect for all cultures and beliefs within all discussions.</p> <p>By learning more about other cultures and beliefs, through reading a wide range of texts, students develop more respect as their level of understanding increases, and you cannot have respect without understanding.</p> <p>Our World Our Thoughts insists on showing respect and allowing all time to respond without judgement.</p>	<p>Students have the ability to debate responsibly around gambling, high interest loans and around the general financial responsibility of all members of society.</p> <p>Through reading a range of both fictional and non-fiction, students are exposed to an array of different religious experiences. This can be seen through: Malcolm X's speeches (Judaism); Malala's speeches (Muslim); A Christmas Carol (Christianity); Jekyll and Hyde (atheism). Through these texts, students listen to other people's experiences and beliefs, while also exploring provided contextual information about these faiths.</p>