# **Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) and British Values Policy**

# Intent

SMSC is the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development of all children at our school. It is embedded throughout our school ethos and climate, extending beyond academia to provide the broader development of our pupils. We want the children at St Botolph’s to not only be successful, confident learners but also responsible, active citizens, and as such we prioritise the personal development and well-being of every child. SMSC enables us to support our learner’s personal development, help shape their character and is crucial to their development as an individual. It is the over-arching umbrella that encompasses our whole curriculum and the wider life of the school, ensuring the development of the whole child. Our school climate promotes and celebrates British Values at every level and ensures that, when our pupils leave St Botolph’s, they are prepared for life in Modern Britain. Given that Sleaford is not the most diverse town, it is essential that our SMSC and British Values education broadens the horizons of our pupils at St Botolph’s to wider experiences so that they can thrive in society locally, nationally and globally.

# Aims

Through promoting SMSC development, we aim to:

* Enable pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence
* Empower pupils to distinguish right from wrong
* Encourage students to accept responsibility for their behaviour
* Provide opportunities to participate in a range of activities requiring social skills and collaboration
* Involve children in a range of artistic, sporting and other cultural opportunities
* Understand how they can contribute positively to their local community as well as to wider society
* Gain a knowledge and respect for public services in England
* Appreciate and respect their own culture and the culture of others and bring harmony between these
* Develop respect towards diversity
* Allow our children to be reflective, imaginative, creative and curious

Through promoting British Values, we aim to:

* Prepare our pupils for life in modern Britain
* Equip our pupils with the knowledge and skills to be responsible, respectful, active citizens who contribute positively to society
* Develop our pupils understanding of the fundamental British Values
* Celebrate diversity
* Encourage respect and tolerance of all others
* Enable pupils to participate fully and positively in democratic, modern Britain

# Implementation

At St Botolph’s, we recognise the importance of providing a range of opportunities for our pupils to respond to in order to support their SMSC development. SMSC is not a separate subject on our school’s curriculum and, as such, it is not taught explicitly nor in isolation but rather is an aspect of learning that is present and permeates throughout the school. This broad concept can be found across all of our school activities, embedded in our school’s climate and throughout our school’s provision. We also aim to develop SMSC through worships, behaviour expectations and our attitudes in school.

The curriculum that we provide at St Botolph’s consists of a wide range of opportunities that encourage pupils to work together and use imagination in their learning. Activities are planned that require pupils to reflect and empathise with others, as well as giving them the confidence to provide their opinions and develop their own viewpoints. We provide our pupils with activities that encourage them to reflect on the significance of what they are learning and to recognise any challenges that there may be to their own attitude and lifestyle. Across our curriculum, we seek illustrations and examples drawn from as wide a range of cultural contexts as possible. Regular class discussions and debates will give our pupils the chance to express their own ideas and beliefs, share their thoughts and feelings and talk about experiences and events. Through our entire curriculum, we aim to build our children’s self-esteem, which is echoed in our promotion of a Growth Mindset and the Six Powers of Learning.

Some of our curriculum areas lend themselves to the direct development of SMSC and as such we utilise these opportunities to progress our SMSC education. RSE, PSHE and RE in particular are great vehicles for us to educate our children in regards to different cultures, faiths and beliefs and how we can respect and show tolerance to these. We also build a cultural capital through our art and music curriculums, where the children have the opportunities to study an artist or artistic style from another culture or learn a song from another country or in another language. This is further supported by the visitors that we have in school. Furthermore, our PE curriculum and sporting opportunities provide ample social experiences for our pupils to work together and collaborate as a team.

As a school, we are aware of our collective responsibility towards SMSC education. As such, the staff at St Botolph’s consistently model the expectations at a high standard, providing a constant exemplar for our children to follow. Staff at St Botolph’s are expected to provide a role model based on courtesy and mutual respect. We listen to students’ views and encourage them to listen to one another. Staff are also aware of the opportunities presented every day, through both curricular and extra-curricular activities, to develop students’ SMSC education, attitude and understanding. Our teachers carefully consider how to incorporate elements of SMSC when planning their lessons in order to ensure these opportunities are present in the classroom in addition to the wider life of the school.

# Impact

A successful SMSC education should impact the whole child and should lay the foundations for them to be responsible citizens and to be keen to make a positive contribution to modern society. We want all of our children to have experienced and learnt the value of belonging to a community, by being a part of the community at St Botolph’s, and to take this with them into the future. We hope our pupils will be happy, reflective, passionate, life-long learners, inspired by imagination, creativity, reflection and curiosity - qualities that provide the backbone to our curriculum. We expect that, when our pupils leave St Botolph’s, they feel proud of the opportunities that they engaged with, both academic but also extra-curricular. Our SMSC education should instil confidence in all of our pupils, raising their aspirations and helping them to recognise their full potential. Our children will have had opportunities to fail so that they are more resilient. They will be able to encourage and collaborate with others, regardless of differences, and demonstrate and apply the fundamental British Values learnt. They will be reflective upon their own behaviour, have a developed a moral compass and understand right from wrong.

# Monitoring the impact of PSHE

The SMSC and British value lead maintains an evidence grid for all areas of SMSC and British Values to ensure that our school provision for these areas is strong. The evidence grid has been designed using Ofsted’s success criteria and is regularly updated with evidence throughout the year. Through use of this evidence grid, the SMSC and British Values lead has identified strengths and weaknesses which have fed into an Action and Improvement plan to ensure we continue to drive forwards. This plan will be reviewed regularly to ensure progress towards the targets is being made.

To ensure that SMSC and British Values education is effective and is having an impact throughout the school, the lead will conduct pupil voice through the form of interviews and/or questionnaires with a diverse range of children. In addition, staff voice will also be conducted so that the lead can support staff and ensure that our practise is effective and consistent. Using both the staff and pupils to monitor the progression of SMSC and British Values creates a holistic picture from a range of viewpoints. It will also help to continue to identify strength and weaknesses that need to be addressed.

**Co-ordinator:** Miss Arthur

**Governor:** Katie West

**Date:** May 2020

**Date for Review:** September 2020

**Note:** This policy should be read in conjunction with the school’s RSE Policy, PSHE Policy, RE Policy and Behaviour Policy. It also adheres to the Equality Act 2010 and the protected characteristics that are listed within this. Our school promotes British Values in accordance with the Prevent Duty 2015.