



Executive Principal: Mrs M. Thompson

Headteacher: Mrs M. Lochhead

School Policy

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC)

This policy adopted by Governors in November 2017

Signed by the Chair _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Lochhead', is written over a horizontal line.

To be reviewed in November 2018

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SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL EDUCATION (SMSC) POLICY including the PROMOTION OF BRITISH VALUES

Introduction :

Hawthorns School regards the spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspect of education as a core entitlement for all pupils. It permeates every aspect of school life and through the school's SMSC curriculum British values are promoted. The development of SMSC is an inherent part of the way we work. It is embedded in the culture of the school, modelled by staff and pupils throughout the day, taught in all classes and recognised and celebrated alongside academic achievement.

Our School provides a nurturing, caring environment where learning remains the key focus, but where a child's needs can be met to help them come to terms with, and overcome (where possible), the barriers that have limited their progress.

We aim to provide pupils with the necessary support and challenge to help them achieve their potential, both with their learning and with their personal and social development. We want our pupils to leave with high aspirations, a strong sense of self-belief, respect and tolerance for themselves and for others, and a solid foundation of learning upon which they can build a successful future.

SMSC Values Statement:

At Hawthorns School, we recognise that the personal development of pupils spiritually, morally, socially and culturally plays a significant part in their ability to achieve and learn, and helps prepare them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences they will face throughout their lives.

The four areas of SMSC are :

Spiritual Development - being reflective about beliefs, values and aspects of human experience, using imagination and creativity and developing a curiosity in learning.

Moral Development - helps us to recognise right and wrong in school life and outside school, understanding consequences and engaging in experiences relating to moral and ethical issues.

Social Development - involves developing and using a range of social skills in different contexts, working well with others, resolving conflicts and engaging in experiences relating to the wider community.

Cultural Development - provides opportunities to engage with a range of artistic, musical, sporting and other cultural experiences which promote understanding, acceptance, respect and the celebration of diversity.

At Hawthorns School we will support our pupils by providing:

- A stimulating, experience-based curriculum that is both appropriate and relevant and which will enable our pupils to make progress with their learning.
- A safe and secure learning environment.
- A consistent approach to the delivery of SMSC through the curriculum and the overall life of the school.
- Close liaison and working partnerships with parents / carers and other agencies involved with our pupils.
- Caring adults who are good role models and who promote expected behaviour, treating everyone as unique and valuable individuals and showing respect for pupils and their families.

We will provide the following opportunities for pupils to :

Spiritual:

- Use their imagination and creativity in their learning
- Gain an understanding of feelings and emotions and their likely impact
- Explore beliefs (religious or otherwise) and build respect for the beliefs and values of others
- Experience moments of stillness and reflection
- Reflect on, consider and celebrate the wonders and mysteries of life
- Develop curiosity in their learning
- Foster an enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them
- Prepare pupils for the challenges of life beyond education

Moral:

- Recognise the unique value of each individual
- Listen and respond appropriately to the views of others
- Take initiative and act appropriately with consideration for others
- Make appropriate and informed decisions and choices
- Show respect for the environment
- Manage their own behaviour
- Develop and apply an understanding of right and wrong in their school life and life outside school

Social:

- Develop a positive self-image and an awareness of individual rights and responsibilities
 - Learn to be effective communicators
 - Help others in school and the wider community
 - Develop personal qualities valued in society eg. Honesty, consideration, independence, self-respect
 - Develop appropriate leadership and accept responsibility
 - Form and maintain positive relationships
 - Take part in a range of activities requiring social skills
 - Work co-operatively and collaboratively
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Cultural:

- Recognise the value and richness of cultural diversity in Britain
- Develop an awareness of Britain and its' relationship with the wider world (to include where possible local, national, European, Commonwealth and global dimensions)
- Provide opportunities to engage with a range of educational visitors, visits and experiences around art, music, sport and other cultural activities and events

PROMOTING BRITISH VALUES THROUGH SMSC:

Our Values Statement:

We promote 'British Values' through our spiritual, moral, social and cultural education, our Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship curriculum and through the general day-to-day life of the school.

Staff embrace these values and act as role models for the pupils, helping to develop the 'whole child' in and out of school.

Our curriculum offers broad and balanced opportunities throughout the school.

The five key British Values are:

Democracy

The Rule of Law

Individual Liberty

Mutual Respect

Tolerance of different Faiths and Beliefs

Democracy:

We offer a range of activities that enable the pupils to 'have a voice' and to 'be heard'. We empower our pupils by providing opportunities to be involved in making choices about things that they believe to be important to them. It is essential that pupils learn the power of respectful communication. By valuing their 'voice' and by listening and responding to that voice we demonstrate that we support democracy and liberty.

Our School Council enables pupils to experience the process of electing representatives and having others speak on their behalf. It represents a strong pupil voice. We also conduct pupil surveys and follow up ideas and feedback to pupils.

The Rule of Law:

We involve our pupils in discussing class expectations of behaviour for personal use, for groups and for school as a whole. They experience the decision making process that sets expectations, boundaries and consequences that are acceptable to the school community and that reflect society at large.

Pupils are helped to learn to manage their behaviour and take responsibility for their actions. Staff are committed to providing a consistent and predictable environment within the school and beyond. Pupils learn to connect actions with consequences and to understand what happens to those who break rules or laws. We want our children to learn about their responsibility to be law abiding citizens.

We aim to ensure that pupils feel safe and secure, and we challenge those whose actions may disrupt this.

Individual Liberty:

Pupils are encouraged to become good and valued citizens. We do this by supporting each pupil to make, and respect, individual choices and to become as independent as possible. We endeavour to demonstrate that everyone has rights, especially the right to feel safe in school.

Some pupils will have the opportunity to take on representative roles in school, and through this pupils learn that with certain rights comes a level of responsibility. The SMSC and PSHCE curriculum ensures pupils know how to act safely and there are high expectations that they will behave safely towards others. We support others through a range of charitable events. We believe that developing a caring and empathic environment and promoting a sense of responsibility for self and others, can boost and nurture a healthy self-esteem.

Mutual Respect:

Our ethos is based on mutual respect and good manners. We promote inclusion of each and every individual based on safety and meeting individual need. Within school, pupils work with a range of adults and peers, and interactions with others are always positively promoted. Respectful actions and deeds are recognised and praised.

The curriculum presents lots of opportunities for the pupils to interact with, and in, the local community, and we believe we have a responsibility to facilitate opportunities for our pupils to be part of, and contribute to, both their local community and the wider community.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs:

The curriculum helps our pupils to understand how faith is important to different people and how they celebrate their religion. We teach them to be respectful towards others who have differing beliefs to their own. We place great emphasis on our pupils experiencing for themselves through meeting with others or participating in celebrations and events, so that they broaden their knowledge and understanding of the community and the world in which they live, and develop tolerance and acceptance of others to ensure they contribute positively to a truly cohesive community.

Where can you find SMSC and British Values in our school?

Opportunities are created for the development of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development through the taught curriculum and through other, wider school events and activities. These opportunities reflect the culture and the ethos of our inclusive school, and will offer individual, group or whole school experiences designed to aid and strengthen the personal and social development of each of our pupils:

- The curriculum as a whole
- Specifically the PSHCE curriculum including SRE and RE curriculum
- Snack and Dinner times, Circle Time
- Assemblies and seasonal celebrations (Harvest/ Christmas/ Easter)
- Physical Education – promotion of fair play, following rules, inclusion, celebrating and rewarding success and participation in activities that promote working together
- ICT – regular e-safety lessons
- Behaviour strategies
- The Rewards System
- ECO Council/School Council / Sports Council (Pupil Voice)
- After School clubs
- Special visitors to school
- Educational trips and visits
- Community - interaction with other schools through visits and competitions, local churches and events within the community
- Fund Raising activities
- Cultural experiences and important events from other faiths
- Focused Curriculum Weeks and special events
- The 'Arts' delivery (Music, Dance, Drama, Art, Sculpture)

This policy was developed in consultation with the TAMESIDE SPECIALIST SUPPORT SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP SSSP using guidance from DfE November 2014- Promoting Fundamental British Values as part of SMSC in schools.

This policy should be read alongside the following policies: Prevent Duty/Safeguarding Behaviour/ PSHE/RE and will be updated every year.



November 2017
