



St Luke's C of E (Aided) Primary School

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Policy

Date Adopted: 18th January 2022

Review Date: January 2024

Signature of Chair of Governors Meeting:

Minute number:

Rationale

It is a primary aim of our school that every member of the school community feels valued and respected, is given the opportunities to thrive and flourish and that each person is treated fairly and well which is demonstrated through our school vision.

Our Vision

Through our Christian values we will **aspire** to be more like Jesus; **believe** all as having equal worth and dignity in God's eyes and help all our children to **achieve** their God-given potential knowing that,

'we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us'

Philippians 4:13.

The school's SMSC policy, driven by our vision, motto and core values is a key factor in the success of our school Mission which states:

Our mission will be driven by our vision, motto and values so that together, ***we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.*** We will:

- Foster a secure, happy, and nurturing Christian environment where all can **aspire, believe and achieve.**
- Offer a well-disciplined school in which high expectations encourages **friendship** and **forgiveness.**
- Have at our heart collective worship that will provide all with opportunities for spiritual awareness and development.
- Provide high quality RE that develops religious literacy and a deeper understanding of the rich diversity of our world, recognising that all have been created in the image of God.
- Give our children the confidence to develop **endurance** in times of difficulty and have **hope** for their future.
- Establish effective links between home and school that enables parents and teachers to work together for the benefit of their child so that they can **achieve** their God-given potential.
- Develop a PSHE and RSE curriculum that prepares our children for the challenges of modern Britain.
- Encourage **love** and **compassion** in our children **believing** all have equal worth and dignity in God's eyes

All stakeholders of St Luke's Church of England Aided Primary School Value:

- Equality
- Forgiveness
- Respect
- Honesty
- Trust

And they are encouraged to reflect upon their learning and actions at all times through the use of Effective Learning Characteristics; Spiritual Me, Creative Me, Social Me, Physical Me and Thinking Me

Introduction

As a Church of England school the context of our SMSC policy lies in our core Christian values of:

Love and **Compassion, Friendship** and **Forgiveness, Endurance** and **Hope**

The school takes an active approach in the development of spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects of our pupils' education. The policy, driven by our shared vision, is reinforced by many of our other policies, particularly those concerned with behaviour, equal opportunities, personal social and health education and citizenship.

Definitions

The following definitions are used within the context of this policy: -

Spiritual development: *This can be defined as personal development relating to the spirit or soul and the intangible. It does not necessarily relate to physical nature or matter and is not synonymous with religious education – although religious education and collective worship can be a major vehicle for the delivery of spiritual matters. The spirituality we promote is Christian in nature.*

Moral development: *This can be defined as personal development relating to human behaviour, especially the distinction between good and bad, right and wrong.*

Social development: *This can be defined as a personal development concerned with living in a community rather than alone.*

Cultural development: *This can be defined as personal development concerned with the total of inherited ideas, beliefs, values and knowledge which constitute the shared basis for social action.*

Aims

The ethos of our school is such that all people who come into our school, whether staff, pupil, parent or visitor, are valued as individuals in their own right. They should set, and be entitled to expect from others, good standards of behaviour, marked by respect and responsibility.

The role model standards will be set by the Head teacher and practiced by all staff in order to set an effective example for our children. However, we must recognise that the children's development will be affected by many factors other than those which the school itself provides. These include maturity, personality, gender, family, peer group, ethnicity, cultural background and more generally the moral, spiritual and cultural climate of our society and of the communities to which they belong.

Through religious education and acts of Collective Worship, children will be introduced to a broad spectrum of beliefs. They will be encouraged to value other people's opinions and develop a questioning mind across a wide area of the curriculum.

Planning

In planning lessons teachers are aware of the need to plan for opportunities in spirituality and reflection as well as for thinking skills and the key skills.

Spiritual Development

Planned opportunities for spiritual development in all subjects can be seen across the school and year groups will compile a Spiritual Journal, collating reflective activities across their time in school.

Children are given opportunities to reflect upon the meaning of spiritual experiences. Examples of experiences commonly regarded as spiritual include:

- Curiosity and mystery
- Awe and wonder
- Connection and belonging
- Heightened self-awareness
- Prayer and worship
- Deep feelings of what is felt to be ultimately important
- A sense of security, well-being, worth and purposefulness.

These can occur during any part of the school day, eg when listening to music, discussing the care needed for animals, exercising empathy or creativity, how we live, contemplating the future, etc

Moral/Social Development

It is important that children are given clear guidance as to what is not acceptable behaviour, so that they can develop a moral code of their own that is socially acceptable. With this in mind each class works together at the beginning of each academic year to create Class Rules. All members of the classroom, including adults sign this and it is referred back to regularly throughout the year.

The School Values all children:

- Telling the truth
- Keeping promises
- Respecting the rights and property of others
- Acting considerately towards others
- Helping those less fortunate and weaker than ourselves
- Taking personal responsibility for one's actions
- Self-discipline

And We Reject

- Bullying
- Cheating
- Deceit
- Cruelty
- Irresponsibility
- Dishonesty

For the children these expectations are embodied in our Rainbow Rules – Appendix 1

Teachers always discuss with their classes a code of conduct for the classroom based on the values held by the school. These are demonstrated in our school Rainbow Rules, which are grounded in scripture. Appendix 1. We will teach the children to be aware of their own actions, take responsibility for their own bodies and encourage independence. We will help the children to identify their feelings and think these through so that they are expressed in behaviour that is socially acceptable.

This is done through worship, circle time in Family Groups, PSHE, peer mentoring, pupil advocacy and 1:1 therapeutic behaviour support for targeted pupils.

We are interested in the development of the whole child and will endeavour to raise their self-esteem through praise, stickers, Star of the week, Citizen of the week, Head Teachers Award, Golden Tickets, Head Teacher' Golden Tea Party and other means that highlight both academic and social achievements (please refer to our behaviour and discipline policy).

Appendix 1

St Luke's Rainbow Rules

Red is for Respect: Respect yourself, others and school property.

... Pay others the honour and respect you owe them' (Romans 13:7)

Orange is for Organisation: Organise yourself and be ready to learn.

Let all things be done decently and in order (1 Corinthians 14:40)

Yellow is for Yes please, No thank you—use your manners.

Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person (Colossians 4:6)

Green is for Gentleness and Kindness: Be Gentle and kind to others at all times

As God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourself with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience (Colossians 3:12)

Blue is for Behaviour: Behave sensibly and safely

..... that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way (1 Timothy 2:2)

Indigo is for Instructions: Instructions must be listened to and followed

*Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.
(Proverbs 22:6)*

Violet is for Value: Above all Value others.

In humility, value others about yourselves (Philippians 2:3)