



# SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural) Development Policy

Date	Reviewed by	Agreed by governors	Next due for review
September 2022	Rewritten policy A Walch		September 2024

**BEDS-created**  
**Non-statutory**  
**2-year review cycle**

**Believe to achieve! “Roots will grow down into God’s love and keep us strong.” Eph 3:17**

**Values: Friendship, Respect, Trust, Courage, Perseverance, Thankfulness**

Brinkworth Earl Danby’s is committed to providing a secure, happy and stimulating learning environment in which EVERYONE is valued, spiritual growth is nurtured and potential maximised. We believe as a community that each child can reach their vocational potential. We believe each child is of unique worth made in the image of God. We believe in each child being the best that they can be and finding their place in the world. We believe in: a child’s potential; being part of a community; being the best you can be.

In partnership with parents/carers, we aim to:

- create a happy, caring atmosphere in which each child feels secure and valued within an environment which is stimulating and attractive
- meet each child’s needs physically, creatively, intellectually, emotionally and socially
- educate children about a diverse society and world in order to promote understanding and positive attitudes
- help the child acquire a set of moral and spiritual values that reflect our designation as a Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School
- inspire each child to be an enthusiastic learner and develop capabilities and attributes that ‘build learning power’
- enable pupils to become confident and responsible citizens

Our ethos underpins our unique culture and behavior in our Church of England School. Our children are at the centre of every decision made. We always ask ‘of what benefit will this be to our children? Will this help support them to be the best they can be?’ We go the extra mile. Whether it is staff, parents, children, governors or community members, we choose to make that extra effort for a better outcome for individuals and for our school community.

This policy is written with our vision, values, ethos and aims at its heart.

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

## Introduction

SMSC is like an umbrella over the curriculum, permeating into everything we do and encompassing personal development across the whole curriculum. We ensure that the children in our care have opportunities to develop in a spiritual, moral, social and cultural way, for example: through curriculum activities, choice of texts to read, extra-curricular activities, trips and visits, worship times, the use of specific vocabulary in class discussions and joining in activities with children from other schools in our cluster.

Definitions (taken from Ofsted inspection handbook 2019):

The **spiritual** development of a child is shown by their:

- ability to be reflective about their own beliefs (religious or otherwise) and perspective on life
- knowledge of, and respect for, different people's faiths, feelings and values
- sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them
- use of imagination and creativity in their learning
- willingness to reflect on their experiences

The **moral** development of pupils is shown by their:

- ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong and to readily apply this understanding in their own lives, recognise legal boundaries and, in doing so, respect the civil and criminal law of England
- understanding of the consequences of their behaviour and actions
- interest in investigating and offering reasoned views about moral and ethical issues and ability to understand and appreciate the viewpoints of others on these issues

The **social** development of pupils is shown by their:

- use of a range of social skills in different contexts, for example working and socialising with other pupils, including those from different religious, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds
- willingness to participate in a variety of communities and social settings, including by volunteering, cooperating well with others and being able to resolve conflicts effectively
- acceptance and engagement with the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs; they develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain

The **cultural** development of pupils is shown by their:

- understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage and that of others
- understanding and appreciation of the range of different cultures in the school and further afield as an essential element of their preparation for life in modern Britain
- ability to recognise, and value, the things we share in common across cultural, religious, ethnic and socio-economic communities

- knowledge of Britain's democratic parliamentary system and its central role in shaping our history and values, and in continuing to develop Britain
- willingness to participate in and respond positively to artistic, musical, sporting and cultural opportunities
- interest in exploring, improving understanding of and showing respect for different faiths and cultural diversity and the extent to which they understand, accept and respect diversity. This is shown by their respect and attitudes towards different religious, ethnic and socio-economic groups in the local, national and global communities

## Implementation

At Brinkworth Earl Danby's School, we use these definitions to help us to support the children's SMSC development. Every teacher ensures that there are a range of SMSC opportunities throughout each term. Each year group has a list of example activities to promote SMSC development for children in that year group. In addition to this, each subject coordinator has considered how opportunities for SMSC development can be woven into their subject. By following this approach, it is kept in the forefront of our minds. In addition to this, our collective worship times support SMSC development.

## Monitoring

Subject leads will include SMSC comments in feedback from learning walks, and those who scrutinise the medium-term planning will ensure that SMSC education is clearly visible throughout the term's planning. The Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher will consider the development of pupil's SMSC development during their daily classroom visits, and through pupil voice activities, as well as during lesson observations.

## Impact

It is our intention that when children leave Brinkworth Earl Danby's Primary School, they will be ready for the next step in their education, with a strong sense of moral justice, an understanding of and respect for those with different faiths than their own, an idea of the huge variety of people who make up the citizens of our country, and a willingness to reflect on and learn from their experiences. In this way, they can value everyone, maximise their potential to be the best they can be, and find their place in the world.

## Review

We aim to review this policy every two years, or sooner if the curriculum changes.