



Castleton C of E Primary School

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Policy

October 2014

Introduction

At Castleton C of E Primary School we believe that spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is about the values communicated by all members of our school community. 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. We expect all adults within our school to model these values to colleagues, parents and pupils. We want our pupils to grow and flourish, become confident individuals, and appreciate their own worth and that of others.

General Aims

Through our curriculum, in particular religious education and aspects of collective acts of worship, children will be introduced to a wide area of beliefs. We will provide support to the children as they develop their own understanding. In addition we will provide opportunities to explore and develop their own:

- values and beliefs
- spiritual awareness
- high standards of personal behaviour
- a positive and caring attitude towards other people
- an understanding of their social and cultural traditions
- an appreciation of the diversity and richness of other cultures.

Pupils will be encouraged to value other people's opinions and develop a questioning mind whilst showing respect for the integrity and spirituality of pupils from other faith backgrounds.

Pupils will have opportunities to explore the diversity of spiritual traditions and alternative views whilst being provided with clear guidance as to what is and what is not acceptable behaviour, so that they can develop a moral code of their own that is socially acceptable.

Pupils will be guided and encouraged in recognising their role as an important element in the different groups in which they become involved. They will be encouraged to see their personal worth as being a group member who can make a valuable contribution to the way in which the group works.

Area Specific Aims

Social Development

We will provide opportunities for pupils to develop:

- an understanding of their individual and group identity.
- an understanding of their role in school, the locality and in the wider community
- an understanding that their actions can have a positive impact upon the community.
- an understanding of the importance of social justice and a concern for those who are disadvantaged.
- co-operation and work together.
- an understanding of the need for rules and the need to abide by rules for the good of everyone. School and classroom rules, rewards and sanctions will reflect, reiterate, promote and reward acceptable behaviour and provide opportunities to celebrate pupils' achievements.

Moral Development

We value the development of the 'whole child' and will endeavour to raise the children's self esteem through praise, rewards and other means which highlight both academic and social achievements. We also value the families that the children come from and our 'open door' policy to parents encourages children to see that we are working in co-operation with their parents.

Opportunities will be provided for:

- discussion with our School Council to establish a code of conduct for the classrooms based on the values held by the school.
- recognising the consequences of their own actions
- taking responsibility for their own bodies and environment encouraging independence.
- the children to identify their feelings and think these through so that they are expressed in behaviour that is socially acceptable.

Cultural Development

We will endeavour to develop cultural understanding in children by:

- starting with an awareness of the child's own culture and associated traditions and beliefs.
- introducing the children to other cultures, traditions and beliefs in order to facilitate awareness, understanding, tolerance and respect for other cultures both in this country and across the world.
- establishing a link with a school in another country

Spiritual Development

Within our Christian ethos we will:

- provide opportunities for children to discuss their beliefs, feelings, values and responses to personal experiences such as happiness, joy, loss or grief
- provide opportunities for children to discuss others beliefs, feelings, values and responses to experiences such as happiness, joy, loss or grief
- ensure that children are able to talk about their emotional life in order to address anxieties or concerns and build their self esteem and feelings of self worth.
- allow time within the curriculum and in acts of collective worship for stillness, reflection and celebration of the wonders and mysteries of life.
- encourage the formation and maintenance of positive and meaningful relationships with their peers and adults in school
- ensure the children have a sense of personal worth, uniqueness and identity
- ensure that our collective worship is Christian based, providing the opportunity to reflect on Christian values, worship God and develop their own sense of belief

Links with the wider community

Where relevant and appropriate we will work with other agencies and forums to provide support for the children's SMSC development. We will invite speakers into the classroom to inform learning through the curriculum and also into acts of collective worship and whole school or group meetings to share information, celebrations, worship and reflections. Our links with community groups in the immediate environment, such as parents, churches, pre school groups, community groups and nearby schools will be developed, maintained and used to enhance provision and outcomes for our children.

Monitoring and Evaluating

Evaluation of the effectiveness of the Social Moral and Cultural Policy will be done through:

- An annual audit through staff and pupil questionnaires
- Monitoring of children's work through learning walks and scrutinising exercise books
- Involvement of Governors in the monitoring and evaluating of the work in school
- Feedback from visitors
- Feedback from places where the children have been on educational visits

Signed: Headteacher **Date:**.....

Signed: Chair of Governors**Date:**.....

Review: Autumn 2017