

Spiritual, Social, Moral and Cultural (SMSC) Development Policy [Paragraph 5, Part 2 ISSR] Bablake Pre-Prep School

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Regulatory / Statutory Authority(ies)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Independent School Standards Regulations (ISSR). ▪ Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI)- Para 5, Part 2 ISSR – SMSC; and Part 1, Para 2(2)(d) of ‘Quality of education provided (curriculum)’
Related Policies, Procedures, and/or Documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Equality Act 2010 ▪ Fundamental British Values
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VERSION HISTORY

Version Number	Amendment(s) Or Formal Review	Date [Month/Year]	Summary of change(s)
1.0	Formal Review	September 2023	Formal Review.
1.1	Update	April 2024	New branding, minor formatting [no core content change].





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I Statement of General Principles

At Bablake Pre-Prep School, we recognise that the personal development of pupils, spiritually, morally, socially and culturally (SMSC) plays a significant part in their ability to learn and achieve. We therefore aim to deliver an education that provides pupils with opportunities to explore and develop:

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

SMSC is a dimension of the whole school experience which makes the curriculum relevant, stimulating, creative and fun. It enriches each subject and the ethos of Bablake Pre-Prep School and is an essential ingredient of school success. The SMSC policy provides the school with the opportunity to encourage respect for other people, paying particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010 to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

This policy applies to all aspects of the school including those covering Early Years.

2 Guidelines

- All curriculum areas have a contribution to make to the child's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and opportunities for this will be planned in each area of the curriculum.
- All adults will model and promote expected behaviour, treating all people as unique and valuable individuals and showing respect for pupils and their families.
- The school community will be a place where pupils can find acceptance for themselves as unique individuals and where forgiveness and the opportunity to start again is fundamental to the ethos of the school.
- Pupils should learn to differentiate between right and wrong in so far as their actions affect other people. They will be encouraged to value themselves and others.
- Pupils should understand the need for rules and the need to abide by rules for the good of everyone. School and classroom rules should reflect, reiterate, promote and reward acceptable behaviour and provide opportunities to celebrate pupils' work and achievements.





- All curriculum areas should seek to use illustrations and examples drawn from as wide a range of cultural contexts as possible. This will be reflected in teachers' planning and purchasing decisions.

3 General Aims

- To ensure that everyone connected with the school is aware of our values and principles.
- To ensure a consistent approach to the delivery of SMSC issues through the curriculum and the general life of the school.
- To ensure that a pupil's education is set within a context that is meaningful and appropriate to their age, aptitude and background.
- To ensure that pupils know what is expected of them and why.
- To give each pupil a range of opportunities to reflect upon and discuss their beliefs, feelings and responses to personal experience.
- To enable pupils to develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.
- To enable pupils to begin to develop an understanding of their social and cultural environment and an appreciation of the many cultures that now enrich our society.
- To give each pupil the opportunity to explore social and moral issues and develop a sense of social and moral responsibility.

3.1 Spiritual Development

As a school we aim to provide learning opportunities that will enable pupils to:

- Sustain their self-esteem in their learning experience.
- Develop their capacity for critical and independent thought.
- Foster their emotional life and express their feelings
- Experience moments of stillness and reflection.
- Discuss their beliefs, feelings, values and responses to personal experiences.
- Form and maintain worthwhile and satisfying relationships
- Reflect on, consider and celebrate the wonders and mysteries of life.

3.2 Moral Development

As a school we aim to provide learning opportunities that will enable pupils to:

- Recognise the unique value of each individual.
- Listen and respond appropriately to the views of others.
- Gain the confidence to cope with setbacks and learn from mistakes.
- Take initiative and act responsibly with consideration for others.
- Distinguish between right and wrong.
- Show respect for the environment.
- Make informed and independent judgements.

3.3 Social Development

As a school we aim to promote opportunities that will enable pupils to:





- Develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.
- Learn about service in the school and wider community.

3.4 Cultural Development

As a school we aim to promote opportunities that will enable pupils to:

- Recognise the value and richness of cultural diversity in Britain, and how these influenced individuals and society.
- Develop an understanding of their social and cultural environment.
- Develop an understanding of Britain's local, national, European, Commonwealth and global dimensions.

4 Fundamental British Values

As a school we aim to actively promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. We will also challenge opinions or behaviours in school that are contrary to these values.

Our provision of SMSC will:

- enable pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence;
- enable pupils to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of the United Kingdom;
- encourage pupils to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely;
- enable pupils to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in the United Kingdom;
- further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling pupils to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures;
- encourage respect for other people; and
- encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in the United Kingdom.

In order to promote Fundamental British Values pupils will be given the opportunity to:

- learn how democracy and the law works in Britain, in contrast to other forms of government in other countries;
- experience how democracy works through a pupil elected school council;
- use opportunities such as general or local elections to hold mock elections;
- providing pupils with the opportunity to learn how to argue and defend points of view;
- use resources from a wide variety of sources to learn about a range of faiths.

This list is not designed to be exhaustive. Other opportunities to promote Fundamental British Values can be sought throughout the curriculum, including sporting and extra-curricular activities.





As a school we recognise the importance of these values because:

- People - staff as well as pupils - achieve better when they feel valued
- Our beliefs and values influence the way we behave and the community that we live in
- Education is about the development of the whole person

5 Teaching and Organisation

Development in SMSC will take place across all curriculum areas, within activities that encourage pupils to recognise the spiritual dimension of their learning, reflect on the significance of what they are learning, and to recognise any challenges that there may be to their own attitude and lifestyle. Teachers will inspire pupils through the enthusiasm for and modelling of learning. In planning lessons, teachers are aware of the need to plan opportunities to develop a wide variety of spiritual, moral, social and cultural needs. A vast majority will be delivered through cross curricular activities as well as specific PSHE and RE lessons.

PSHE and RE lessons will give pupils opportunities to:

- Talk about personal experiences and feelings.
- Express and clarify their own ideas and beliefs.
- Speak about difficult events, e.g. bullying, death etc.
- Share thoughts and feelings with other people.
- Explore relationships with friends/family/others.
- Consider others needs and behaviour and show empathy.
- Develop self-esteem, respect for others and a sense of belonging.
- Develop the skills and attitudes that enable pupils to develop socially, morally, spiritually and culturally – e.g. empathy, respect, open mindedness, sensitivity, critical awareness, etc.

Many curriculum areas provide opportunities to:

- Listen and talk to each other.
- Learn an awareness of treating all as equals, and accepting people who are physically or mentally different.
- Agree and disagree.
- Take turns and share equipment.
- Work co-operatively and collaboratively.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Personal development is also enriched through a wide range of extra-curricular activities (Sport, Drama, Art, Forest School) which provide opportunities for SMSC and for inspiring pupils to broaden their experience and horizons.

6 Links with the Wider Community

- Visitors are welcomed into school.





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- The development of a strong home-school link is regarded as very important, enabling parents, teachers and the wider community to work in an effective partnership.
- Pupils will be taught to appreciate their local environment and community and to develop a sense of responsibility to it.

END

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