



West Monkton Church of England School
Where everyone has the courage and confidence to fly.
**Spiritual, Moral, Social and
Cultural Development Policy**

February 2022

Review: February 2024

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Overview

This policy has been developed in consultation with the head teacher, staff and governors. It should be taken and used as part of the West Monkton Church of England School's overall teaching and learning strategy and implemented within the context of our vision, instruments of Government and our values as a Church of England School.

Our Vision

At West Monkton, our vision 'Growing Together and Learning to Fly' encompasses our core beliefs and influences the ethos of our school and the policies and practices within it.

Our vision for West Monkton Church of England School is of a learning community, supported by a strong Christian ethos, moving forward together and striving to achieve success for all. We provide a safe, caring, stimulating environment that enables everyone to develop emotionally, spiritually and academically. We aim to foster a love of learning and encourage the pursuit of excellence, high standards and a sense of achievement in every child.

As a Church of England Primary School, we have identified a bible passage to encourage pupils to 'live the values', **Galatians 5 V22: the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.** The values underpin the curriculum offer.

British Values Statement

At West Monkton School, we actively promote British Values.

We recognise the diversity within our society and ensure that British Values are embedded within our curriculum. The teaching of British Values is integrated through the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) learning that takes place across all curriculum areas.

Aims and Objectives

Spiritual development

At West Monkton, we define Spirituality as the development of awareness that there is “something more to life than meets the eye, something more than the material, something more than the obvious, something to wonder at, something to respond to” (Terence Copley).

We believe that spirituality is a core thread that runs through our school and we attach great importance to it for both children’s development and for the growth and well-being of all within our school community.

In order to develop the spiritual aspects of a pupil’s life, the school will provide opportunities for pupils to:

- Experience the spiritual claims of the Christian faith;
- Develop a sense of wonder, awe, mystery and joy;
- Listen, reflect and puzzle;
- Consider their own feelings, likes and dislikes;
- Develop personal beliefs and values and learn to respect the beliefs and values of others;
- Show insights into the deep questions about life, change and death;
- Engage in activities which involve questioning, valuing, envisioning, empathising, imagining
- Celebrate religious and non-religious beliefs

Please see the spirituality in our curriculum document which illustrates our planned/unplanned opportunities.

Moral Development

At West Monkton we define Moral development as ‘the ability to know right from wrong’.

We are committed to:

- Being truthful and honest
- Supporting children to explore their personal beliefs and values
- Supporting children to respect the beliefs and values of others.
- Considering our own opinions and feelings in relation to others.
- Listen and respond appropriately to the views of others.
- Act responsibility in school and when out in the community.
- Morally reflect on national and international issues.

Social Development

At West Monkton we define social development as ‘the ability to participate in society, through learning the values, knowledge and skills in order to become courageous advocates’

We provide children opportunities to:

- Engage in activities which involve questioning, valuing, envisioning, empathising and imagining
- Equip children with the necessary skills and qualities to embrace life’s opportunities and challenges
- Speak freely and be inquisitive
- Foster a sense of responsibility in the school community and beyond
- Discuss and display expected standards of behaviour

Cultural Development

At West Monkton, we define Cultural development as the ability to understand their personal identity whilst recognising and valuing other cultures.

We provide children with opportunities to:

- Recognise the value of cultural diversity in Britain
- Recognise how some individuals have influenced our society
- Recognise different religions and their rites of passage
- Engage in global education themes
- Be aware and celebrate cultural diversity

Teaching and Organisation

At West Monkton, the development of SMSC takes place across our curriculum through our embedded values. Teachers consciously plan activities which encourage children to recognise the spiritual dimension of their learning, the significance of what they are learning and their own attitudes and lifestyles.

Our collective worship programme facilitates children to develop their SMSC understanding by considering life in all its fullness, and providing opportunities for children to develop their sense of wonder, awe, mystery and joy. In addition, regular reflective time, access to big questions and developing a deeper understanding of our Christian Values supports children to develop spiritually, morally, socially and culturally.

All curriculum areas should seek opportunities for children to experiences and engaging in SMSC discussions. We develop SMSC through:

- Our RSHE programme provides children with age appropriate access to discussions and learning around SMSC topics.
- The learning environment throughout the school promotes SMSC. This includes a consistent approach to promoting and displaying our vision, values and curriculum principals.
- Each classroom has a recognition board to highlight areas of self-development in pupils learning.
- Access to a range of extracurricular clubs promotes SMSC.
- Talk partners/Voice 21
- OPAL play project

Monitoring and Evaluation

- The planning and coordination of SMSC is joint responsibility of the Faith and Beliefs Lead and the RSHE lead.
- SMSC is monitored as a part of our LRW cycles
- Analysis of this information identifies strength in practice and next steps for improvement.
- This policy will be reviewed every two years..