

Northleaze Church of England Primary School
'Encouraging everyone's light to shine.' (Matthew 5:16)



SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL POLICY

This policy should be taken as part of the overall strategy of the school and implemented within the context of our vision, aims and values as a Church of England School.

Rationale:

Spiritual, moral and cultural development is important in promoting the holistic education of children. Engaging with these areas teaches children to appreciate their own cultural traditions and the diversity and richness of other cultures. As a result of this children are encouraged to live in harmony with each other and enjoy and explore the world in which they live. Spiritual, moral and cultural development is an integral theme of the LA Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education (Awareness, Mystery and Value).

Aims:

Northleaze Church of England Primary School is an inclusive school whose ethos is founded on Christian values and beliefs and in particular the unique capacity and worth of every individual. We therefore aim to develop each child's spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness within school life and promote fundamental British values.

Guidelines

1. Spiritual development

We aim to develop in children:

- A sense of wonder, awe and mystery;
- Intellectual curiosity, imagination and creativity;
- Self respect, good manners and courtesy;
- The ability to ask and try to find answers to life's great questions;
- The ability to respond to times of silence, stillness and reflection.
- Self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence.

2. Moral development

We aim to develop in children:

- The understanding of the difference between right and wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England;
- Responsibility for one's own actions;
- The ability to consider the feelings of others;
- An understanding of well-being and how to stay safe.

3. Social development

We aim to develop in children:

- The understanding of the responsibilities and rights of being members of families and various communities – local, national and global-thus promoting positive contributions to the local and wider community;
- The ability to relate to, respect and work with others;
- Skills such as co-operation, leadership, collaboration, responsibility and initiative;
- An understanding and acceptance of diversity;
- An understanding and respect for public institutions and services in England including legal and democratic processes.

4. Cultural development

We aim to develop in children:

- The understanding of how people of different cultures think, feel, create, behave and live;
- A strong sense of belonging within, valuing and engaging with local, regional and national cultures;
- A knowledge and understanding of their own history and cultural tradition and identity of individuals and its practices whilst recognising, respecting and appreciating cultural diversity and tolerance;
- The ability to recognise and promote the contribution of Christianity to our cultural heritage.
- The ability to question, analyse, evaluate and reflect on their responses and the responses of others within a range of different cultural contexts and aesthetic experiences.

Outcomes

We aim for children who can:

- Foster a curiosity to learn about and enjoy other cultures as well as their own;
- Develop a positive self identity;
- Promote a non-judgemental acceptance towards others;
- Develop empathy towards others and show respect for different cultures;
- Develop thoughtfulness and sensitivity towards others;
- Show acceptance that we are all part of the human race.

We aim for children to:

- Possess good knowledge and realistic view of British cultural heritage and history;
- Possess a broad knowledge of cultures other than their own;
- Recognise stereotypes and generalisations.

We aim for children to have the following skills:

- Recognise similarities and differences between cultures;
- Possess appropriate communication skills and be active listeners;
- Interact comfortably with pupils and adults from varying cultures;
- The ability to research and make informed choices and decisions;
- The ability to explore and question ideas.

Opportunities

Our approach and commitment to Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development will be shown through:

- The Ethos statement of the school
- Relationships within the school community
- Collective Worship
- RE, PSHE and Citizenship
- Links with the parish church and community
- Behaviour, anti-bullying and e-safety policies
- All curriculum areas
- Extra - curricular activities
- Governor and parental support.

Planning and practice

Opportunities will be identified in curriculum planning and there will be flexibility to allow for unplanned opportunities to explore spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Monitoring and evaluating

Strategies for the assessment in these areas will focus on providing opportunities and reviewing practice rather than on formal assessment.

Every pupil with additional needs at this inclusive school has an entitlement to fulfil his/her optimum potential. This is achieved by ensuring the well-being of all pupils in relation to: being healthy, staying safe, enjoying and achieving, making a positive contribution and achieving social and economic well-being. These well-being outcomes are embraced in every aspect of school life; personalised teaching and learning approaches; access to ICT across the curriculum; flexible timetables; assessment for learning and partnership which engages pupils in having a say about their progress and additional provision; and partnership with parents/carers, other schools, the local community and with practitioners from health, education and social services providing 'wrap around' care and personalised services.

Reviewed: 23.05.07, 27.09.10, 25.11.15

Review date: Autumn 2020 (every five years)