



Broughton Hall Catholic High School

SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL, CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY (SMSC)

At the heart of our school is our motto, *'one heart, one mind'*, and therefore it is essential that as a school community we ensure that every child entrusted to us develops in every way possible. Every aspect of our school life, curricular and non-curricular, has a role to play in this development, especially in the areas of SMSC development. Naturally, within the curriculum there are those departments that make a more explicit and defined contribution to students' SMSC, though all make a valuable contribution to the development of the whole child.

Spiritual Development

Spiritual development is about the development of a pupil's 'spirit'. Some people may call it the development of a pupil's 'soul'; others as the development of 'personality' or 'character'. Moral development is about the building, by pupils, of a framework of moral values which regulates their personal behaviour. It is also about the development of pupils' understanding of society's shared and agreed values. It is about understanding that there are issues where there is disagreement and it is also about understanding that society's values change. Students and staff are given opportunities to reflect and develop their spirituality in the regular celebration of the liturgical life of the church through collective worship, in R.E., in PSHE, our rich retreat programme and through the wider curriculum and life of the school.

Our aims as a school are to:

- To encourage our students to reflect about themselves and others.
- To encourage our students to recognise and **respect** our rich diversity as human beings.
- To encourage our students to take **responsibility** to use their God given gifts of imagination and creativity to achieve a fuller sense of themselves in and through their learning.
- To encourage our students to develop positive **relationships** and believe in the enjoyment and fascination of exploring the world, others and themselves.

Moral Development

Moral development is about gaining an understanding of the range of views and the reasons for the range. It is also about developing an opinion about the different views. Social development is about young people working effectively with each other and participating successfully in the community as a whole. It is about the development of the skills and personal qualities necessary for living and working together.

It is about functioning effectively in a multi-racial, multi-cultural society. It involves growth in knowledge and understanding of society in all its aspects. This includes understanding people as well as understanding society's institutions, structures and characteristics, economic and political principles and organisations, roles and responsibilities and life as a citizen, parent or worker in a community. It also involves the development of the inter-personal skills necessary for successful relationships.

We aim to enable students to develop a framework of moral values for themselves which allows them to regulate their behaviour. The overarching aim is that our students should be responsible and respectful to one another. We stress that all communities have laws and rules for the regulation of behaviour and thus strive to develop our students' understanding of shared and agreed values.

Our aims as a school are to:

- To encourage our students to explore moral and ethical issues.
- To encourage our students to recognise and **respect** the difference between right and wrong and apply this understanding to their own lives.
- To encourage our students to take **responsibility** and believe that actions can and should have consequences.
- To encourage our students to develop **relationships** and achieve through the above a fuller sense of themselves as citizens and the rights of others.

Furthermore, we support the Prevent Strategy, which defines fundamental British values as:-

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Social Development

We work hard to develop positive relationships, a sense of personal and corporate responsibility, participation in the various aspects of the life of the school and wider community, thus supporting our students on their journey to becoming responsible, contributory citizens. Our students participate in a very wide range of charitable activities. We make a point of recognising the contribution of these students in our community through regular celebrations. All curriculum areas have a contribution to make to the social development of our students both through what is taught but equally on a daily basis through our myriad interactions with each other.

Our aims as a school are to:

- To encourage our students to recognise that they are social beings, members of communities – school, neighbourhood, city, country, world.
- To encourage our students to **respect** others that they encounter in these communities.
- To encourage our students to take **responsibility** and believe in the importance of contributing towards these communities.

- To encourage our students to develop those skills and knowledge that will allow them to develop **relationships** and achieve their potential as participating members of these communities.

Cultural Development

Cultural development is about pupils' understanding their own culture and other cultures in their town, region and in the country as a whole. We recognise the multi-cultural, multi-faith nature of the United Kingdom and understand the crucial role our school plays in promoting these values.

It is about understanding cultures represented in Europe and elsewhere in the world. It is about understanding and feeling comfortable in a variety of cultures and being able to operate in the emerging world culture of shared experiences provided by television, travel and the internet. It is about understanding that cultures are always changing and coping with change. Promoting pupils' cultural development is intimately linked with schools' attempts to value cultural diversity and prevent racism.

Our aims as a school are to:

- To encourage our students to understand and explore the wide range of cultural influences that impact upon their lives.
- To encourage our students to **respect** otherness, religious, racial, socio-economic, sexual.
- To encourage our students to **believe** that they have a role to play in modern British society.
- To encourage our students to develop positive **relationships** and participate in, respond to and achieve at those artistic, sporting and cultural opportunities they are offered.

Through our curriculum, the school offers all of our student's rich opportunities to appreciate and understand a range of cultural experiences. We can evidence a wide diversity of activities to support this claim: tours, trips, productions, clubs, Student Council and Student Voice. We might also mention how Pupil Premium funding has enabled students across the school to experience widening aspirations and participation in enriched educational opportunities.

Encouraging pupils and staff to give praise and show appreciation is a key factor in living out the Gospel values we speak of in our Mission Statement, and thus forming and sustaining a good ethos. Many unplanned opportunities, especially for spiritual development, occur in our lives at school and in the events that surround our friends and families, and we recognise the importance of acknowledging these moments, as we are aware they can have a profound effect on individuals.