

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Policy (SMSC) including Citizenship and Promotion of British Values

Aims

The Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development of pupils at Moreton Prep is at the heart of the school's commitment to enable all pupils to develop self-confidence and self-esteem to realise their full-potential. This policy outlines the contribution that SMSC makes to a Moreton Prep pupil's wellbeing and their physical, academic and creative needs within our community. SMSC plays an important role in developing our pupils as confident, independent minded young people. Our role is to enable every child to become confident pupils who will leave Moreton Prep with the ability to question, the confidence to lead and the skills to deal with the choices that they will face in the future.

Our SMSC provision gives every pupil the opportunity to grow and develop as individuals and as members of the wider community, so that they may have the confidence to make a positive contribution to the world in which they live.

The Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development of our pupils is an essential part of the educational experience that we provide at Moreton Prep and the way we provide it enables pupils to have the tools that will help them develop their own values and attitudes and ultimately giving pupils a greater understanding of the wider community.

Our SMSC provision enables pupils to have the knowledge, understanding, skills and confidence to live healthy, safe, and responsible lives. It encourages pupils to think for themselves, to make their own decisions and to reflect on the decisions of others. This underpins all aspects of the learning environment and it is at the heart of the school's aim to provide every child with the highest quality educational framework and the opportunities to realise his or her potential, in a happy friendly family environment.

Citizenship and Fundamental British Values

The government set out their definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. Due to events that followed these were reinforced with a statutory obligation for schools to promote them in September 2014. These new regulations sit alongside the requirements of the Equalities Act, which also applies to all types of schools.

Schools are expected to focus on and be able to show how our work with pupils is effective in embedding Fundamental British Values. While this can occur through our curriculum they are assessed primarily through our SMSC provision.

Promoting British Values at Moreton Prep

We agree with the Department for Education's five-part definition of British values:

- **Democracy**



- **The rule of law**
- **Individual liberty**
- **Mutual respect**
- **Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs**

Moreton Prep students will encounter these principles throughout everyday school life. In particular, our promotion of spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding has been reviewed and enhanced by these explicit values.

Listed below are some examples of how we promote these values in our school community:

Democracy

Student voice is a significant part of school life at Moreton Prep. We have a school council which plays a strong role in our school. Members are elected by their form. Students also have an input into shaping the school through questionnaires and other opportunities to discuss developments and future planning. This is also taught as part of the History and PSHE curricula and is a common theme in Assemblies. Students also have the opportunity to have positions of responsibility in Year 6. Listening is key to valuing student voice. In lessons and tutorials and all about school, respect is shown for pupils' thinking, opinions and thoughts and they are recognised as key to their learning and development as well as the growth of personal and mutual respect.

The rule of law

Our students will encounter rules and laws throughout their lives. We ensure our students are aware that these laws or rules are set for a good reason and must be adhered to. This is reinforced in Assemblies and throughout the curriculum. We believe that clear explanations and real life stories emphasise the importance of the rule of law amongst our students. This is also taught as part of the History and PSHE curricula.

Individual liberty

We operate a positive culture at Moreton Prep. Children feel safe and are encouraged to take risks when appropriate. In some lessons there is a choice of learning tasks so students have more freedom to determine their own learning paths. We offer a range of extra-curricular clubs that students can select from, based on their interests. Through PSHE and Computer Science we educate students on their rights, personal freedoms and online safety. We believe that valuing choice and freedom in daily school life will foster a value for individual liberty as the children embark upon their adult lives.

Mutual respect

Mutual respect is at the core of our school life and is key to democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, tolerance and tackling radicalisation that is central to Fundamental British Values. Pupils learn to treat each other and staff with great respect. This is evident when walking around the



school and in the classrooms. This is reinforced by units in the PSHE curriculum and through Assemblies.

Tolerance of these of different faiths and beliefs

We offer a rich and diverse curriculum in which all major religions are studied and respected. We believe that tolerance is gained through knowledge and understanding. Through our curriculum and the routines of our daily school life, we strive to demonstrate tolerance and help children to become knowledgeable and understanding citizens who can build a better Britain for the future. Pupils learn to respect and tolerate those of different faiths and cultures. This is not necessarily about spirituality, although the individual beliefs are; the religions bring with them different cultural practices that need to be understood and this is taught in Religious Education (RE) and understood through a myriad of different learning experiences such as pupils and families in the school, MFL and its languages, cultures and traditions, historical events, geography, current affairs and more.

Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation

Since 1st July 2015 schools now have a legal duty to prevent pupils from becoming radicalised. Every member of staff recognises that safeguarding against radicalisation and extremism is no different to safeguarding against any other vulnerability in today's society. Radicalisation is defined as the act or process of making, economic or social conditions, institutions or habits of the mind. Extremism is defined as the holding of extreme political or religious views.

There are a number of behaviours which may indicate a child is at risk of being radicalised or exposed to extreme views. These include;

- Spending increasing time in the company of other suspected extremists.
- Changing their style of dress or personal appearance to accord with the group.
- Day-to-day behaviour becoming increasingly centred on an extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Loss of interest in other friends and activities not associated with the extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Possession of materials or symbols associated with an extremist cause.
- Attempts to recruit others to the group/cause.
- Communications with others that suggests identification with a group, cause or ideology.
- Using insulting to derogatory names for another group.
- Increase in prejudice-related incidents committed by that person.

Although incidents involving radicalisation and extremism have not occurred at Moreton Prep to date, it is important for us to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues which affect the local area and society as a whole. Staff are aware to suspend any 'professional



disbelief' that instances of radicalisation could not happen here and to be 'professionally inquisitive' where concerns arise.

Early intervention is vital and staff must be aware of immediately referring any concerns to the Designated Person. This will then be discussed and the most appropriate course of action agreed on a case-by-case basis and if necessary involve external agencies.

SMSC

At Moreton Prep we recognise that Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development is central to the education of all pupils and permeates the whole curriculum and ethos of the school. It is reflected in the behaviours of individuals and in their interactions and also in the provision of teaching, resources and learning environments. SMSC development is taught through and reflected in all areas of the curriculum and through all aspects of school life. Pupils are provided with the opportunities to gain in knowledge and understanding and to develop the skills they need to participate in the life of the diverse community in which they live.

Spiritual

Spiritual development describes exploring beliefs and experiences; respecting faiths, feelings and values; enjoyment of learning about oneself, others and the surrounding world; the use of imagination and creativity and the ability to reflect.

Pupils' spiritual development at Moreton Prep is shown by their ability to be reflective about their own beliefs, religious or otherwise, that inform their perspective on life and their interest in and respect for different people's faiths, feelings and values; by their sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them and by their use of imagination and creativity in their learning and willingness to reflect on their experiences.

At Moreton Prep children are encouraged to take part in periods of reflection at different times throughout the school week. The RE scheme of work contains units on celebrations, festivals and worship from Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Judaism. Through PSHE and circle time activities, children are helped to gain an understanding of their feelings and emotions and their likely impact on themselves and others. Pupils are encouraged to appreciate the awe and wonder of the world around them whenever appropriate occasions arise e.g. looking at beautiful objects in an assembly, looking for signs of Spring on a Geography trip, visiting a planetarium in Science work on the Earth and beyond.

Moral

Moral development describes the recognition of right and wrong; respect of the law; the understanding of consequences; the ability to investigate moral and ethical issues and to offer reasoned views.



Pupils' moral development at Moreton Prep is shown by their ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong and to readily apply this understanding in their own lives, recognise legal boundaries and, in so doing, respect the civil and criminal law of England; understand of the consequences of their behaviour and actions; show an interest in investigating and offering reasoned views about moral and ethical issues and an ability to understand and appreciate the viewpoints of others on these issues.

At Moreton Prep there is a reward system in place so that all children can be recognised for good behaviour as well as academic achievement. Rewards are handed out at weekly assemblies so that everyone shares in the success. Regular meetings are held to discuss difficult behaviour to ensure that all staff are supported and that ideas are shared. Where appropriate, behaviour plans are agreed and implemented and vulnerable learners are supported and monitored through review and monitoring of rewards and sanctions. The PSHE scheme of work has units dealing with issues to do with rules, negotiating difficult situations, emotions, caring for one another, making and keeping friends and living in a community.

Social

Social development describes the use of a range of social skills; participation in the local community; appreciation of diverse viewpoints; participation, volunteering and cooperation; resolving conflict and engaging with the 'British values' of democracy, the rule of law, liberty, respect and tolerance. In essence children learn to understand and respect our common humanity, diversity and differences so that they can go on to value themselves and others, forming the effective, fulfilling relationships that are an essential part of life and learning.

Pupils' social development at Moreton Prep is shown by their use of a range of social skills in different contexts, for example working and socialising with other pupils, including those from different religious, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds; their willingness to participate in a variety of communities and social settings, including by volunteering, cooperating well with others and being able to resolve conflicts effectively and by their acceptance and engagement with the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. They are able to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.

At Moreton Prep there is a high level of staffing at mealtimes and on the playground to promote appropriate social interaction. Pupils play together in group games and imaginative play on their own and with adults across the school. Form time and house meetings feature across the school promoting turn taking and social interaction. The PSHE scheme of work contains units on Health and Wellbeing, Relationships and Living in the Wider World. Children learn to be effective communicators through opportunities to present Form Assemblies and at school events. Educational visits within the community also support their development.



Cultural

Cultural development describes the appreciation of cultural influences; appreciation of the role of Britain's parliamentary system; participation in culture opportunities and an ability to understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity.

Pupils' cultural development at Moreton Prep is shown by their understanding and appreciation of a wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage and those of others; an understanding and appreciation of the range of different cultures within school and further afield as an essential element of their preparation for life in modern Britain; a knowledge of Britain's democratic parliamentary system and its central role in shaping our history and values, and in continuing to develop Britain; a willingness to participate in and respond positively to artistic, musical, sporting and cultural opportunities and by showing an interest in exploring, improving, understanding and showing respect for different faiths and cultural diversity and the extent to which they understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity, as shown by their tolerance and attitudes towards different religious, ethnic and socio-economic groups in the local, national and global communities.

At Moreton Prep there are regular celebrations of religious festivals over the year including harvest, Divali, Christmas, Easter, Eid and Chinese New Year. Geography and RE have units on other cultures and religions. English includes units on stories from other cultures. All pupils are accepted equally and play an active part in the school community regardless of their colour, religion or gender. Children participate in a range of artistic, sporting and other cultural opportunities provided by the school.

Where you can find SMSC at Moreton Prep?

You find it everywhere:

- In the curriculum as a whole and during lessons
- In the Religious Education curriculum
- In the PSHE Curriculum
- In assemblies
- In our pastoral and form times
- In our Behaviour policy
- In our reward systems
- In extra-curricular activities
- In our displays and books
- During educational visits
- Through Pupil Voice (for example in the School Council)
- During special days



The Role of the Curriculum

The curriculum at Moreton Prep is broad and balanced. It promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. Children are encouraged to share their views and recognise that they are entitled to have their own different beliefs which should not be used to influence others. Our PSHE curriculum is discreetly taught across the whole school. It is recognised that children with low aspirations are more vulnerable to radicalisation and therefore through PSHE and throughout their time at Moreton Prep we strive to equip our pupils with confidence, self-belief and tolerance as well as setting high standards and expectations for themselves. Through PSHE and Computer Science children are regularly taught about how to stay safe when using the internet and are encouraged to recognise that people are not always who they say they are online. They are taught to seek adult help if they are upset or concerned about anything they read or see on the internet.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

This policy is the responsibility of the **Head of Moreton Prep** and is reviewed annually.

Linked to: RE, PSHE, Curriculum policies

Date of Last Review: September 2023 D.Speakman

Date of Next Review: September 2024