

Purbrook Park School

High Achievement for All



Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Policy

Co-ordinator: Patrick Quirke

Start date: March 2015

Review date: March 2018

Values and Principles

At Purbrook Park School, our pupils' Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural development (SMSC) is of paramount importance to their school careers and to their lives. It echoes our drive for lifelong learning, self-fulfilment and social inclusion. SMSC underpins all of our learning and interactions as a school community. We believe that all pupils must have access to appropriate learning opportunities, across the school curriculum. We embrace the concept that SMSC extends beyond the educational environment to encompass full participation at home and in our local community.

Objectives

1. To be a community in which everyone is nurtured in order to create a whole school environment conducive to maximising an individual's learning potential and achievement.
2. To provide a school curriculum that incorporates the principles of equality and promotes tolerance of and respect for, people of all faiths, cultures and lifestyles. All subject areas contribute to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all our pupils, which is evident in lessons and tutor activities.
3. To develop each individual's sense of personal and cultural identity, and to encourage pupils to be confident, open to change, receptive and respectful towards people with other identities.
4. To promote British Values and to prepare our young people for life in a diverse society and world.
5. To maintain an inclusive ethos in our school, where everyone feels welcome, valued and respected.

We understand **SMSC** to be:

Spiritual

Pupils' spiritual development 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 faiths different to their own.
- sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them.
- imagination and creativity, and their willingness to reflect on their own experiences.

Moral

Pupils' moral development is shown by their:

- ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong and, in so doing, respect the civil and criminal law of England
- understanding of the consequences of their behaviour and actions.
- interest in investigating and offering reasoned views about moral and ethical issues, and being able to understand and appreciate the viewpoints of others.

Social

Pupils' social development is shown by their:

- use of a range of social skills in different contexts, including working and socialising with pupils from different religious, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds.
- 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.
- 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; the pupils develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in, and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.

Cultural

Pupils' cultural development is shown by their:

- 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.
- knowledge of Britain's democratic parliamentary system and its central role in shaping our history and values, and in continuing to develop Britain.
- willingness to participate in and respond positively to artistic, sporting and cultural opportunities.
- interest in improving their understanding of 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 wider community.