



Embleton Vincent Edwards C of E Primary School

Policy SMSC Policy
Ratification Date Autumn 2023
Review Date Spring 2025
Signed *Alan Craft*

Chair of Governors

At Embleton Primary School the children are encouraged to develop spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness and to begin to make personal decisions and choices, which reflect this development. Opportunities for the children to develop spiritually, morally, socially and culturally are provided throughout the curriculum, during break times, in Collective Worship, at lunchtime and during extra-curricular activities.

Aims and purpose

Embleton Primary School is a Church of England school. Our ethos is founded on Christian teaching and values and in particular recognises the uniqueness and worth of each individual member of the school, both children and adults alike, all of whom are loved by God. With this in mind, the aim of the school in SMSC is to encourage children to reflect this love by learning to understand and respect the various beliefs, traditions and practices of others, both within the school and the wider community. Our purpose is to ensure that pupils leave us with a maturing understanding of the experiences and values of others and a growing sense of identity based on personal values and self-worth within a diverse community.

Spiritual development involves the nurture of a fundamental aspect of the human condition that is not necessarily able to be expressed through the physical senses or in words. It involves relationships, with the divine for those who believe, and with other human beings and the natural world. It recognises the universal search for personal identity, the challenges of responding to difficult experiences and the need to find meaning and purpose in life.

Moral and Social development encourages a growing awareness that one is part of a wider society in which an individual has values and responsibilities towards others and may assume certain rights. It involves an understanding that obedience to laws and rules plays an important part in enabling society to function effectively for the benefit of all. It encourages the acquisition of positive values and beliefs as a foundation for living and the basis for good decision making.

Cultural development enhances understanding of the role of traditions, customs, religious practice and artistic expression in giving identity to groups of people. It involves exploring how these areas combine to create a rich diversity of experience in our community and build increasingly harmonious relationships with others in the wider world.

Implementation

To encourage spiritual development the school will provide opportunities for children to develop spiritually. To encourage moral and social development the school will provide opportunities for children to:

- develop a sense of right and wrong in a supportive environment
- develop self-esteem and take responsibility for one's own actions
- be aware of the needs of others and develop empathy

- discuss the need for rules and sanctions and adherence to the school code
- understand the role of forgiveness and generosity towards others
- form judgments about appropriate courses of action
- work collaboratively in a group or team
- celebrate personal achievement and the success of others
- assume responsibility and develop early leadership skills
- engage with the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect.
- Understand the importance of tolerating those of different faiths and beliefs and those of no faith
- have knowledge of Britain's democratic parliamentary system and its central role in shaping our history and values, and in continuing to develop Britain;

To encourage cultural development the school will provide opportunities for children to:

- explore a range of multi-cultural themes through literature, art, music, dance, religious education and worship
- participate in visits to places of cultural interest eg art galleries, museums, theatre productions and places of worship
- to engage with artists, musicians, dancers, story-tellers and religious representatives who visit the school
- participate in school and community events such as fund-raising events and charitable activities.

Beach School

The school has made a firm commitment to using the outdoor environment, and in particular the beach, to support learning. Wherever appropriate, the school uses beach school sessions to promote SMSC awareness.

Most weeks, beach school planning will incorporate some time for peaceful reflection and moments to explore spirituality and connection with the environment. As a beach school, the school is seen actively participating in use of, and care for, the local environment, and local environmental groups and businesses.

Links with the wider community

Embleton Primary School has close links with the community and has a close link with the church and its tradition of participation in the life of the local and wider community. These links foster an attitude of care and concern in pupils, who commit themselves readily to such activities as fundraising for local, national or international events, for example, distribution of harvest collection to the local food bank, participation in national events such as Children in Need, Red Nose Day and Sport Relief. The children take part in partnership sports events and the school plays an important part in the life and celebrations of the church.

Eco-Schools

The school is a green flag award member of Eco-Schools. It has an Eco-Schools committee that actively looks, on behalf of its classmates, for ways in which the school can be more aware of ecological issues.

John Muir and Archbishop of York Young Leaders Awards

All members of Orca class complete their John Muir Award and their Archbishop of York Young Leaders Award. A large focus of both awards is on a wide variety of themes linked to SMSC.

Resources

The school provides access to a range of resources expressing the diversity of cultures represented in the wider British community. English texts, art stimuli, music, religious artefacts and the use of foreign languages reflect the school's aims of giving access to cultural diversity in the teaching of the curriculum. Residential trips, special focus days/weeks, educational visits and specialist visitors to the school offer particular opportunities for the SMSC aims to be pursued.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The provision of spiritual, moral, social and cultural education at Embleton Primary School is monitored by the headteacher in liaison with the RE subject leader.