

St Marie's Catholic Primary School

"Learning through faith, love and respect"



SMSC Policy

Date Reviewed	Pending
Person Responsible:	RE Subject lead

Signed:	Mrs F Jackson (Headteacher)	Date:
Signed:	Mrs S Styles	(Subject Leader)	Date:
Signed:	Dr R Burgess	(Chair/Governor)	Date:



Mission Statement

LEARNING THROUGH FAITH, LOVE AND RESPECT

Living as Jesus taught us and as part of God's family, we at St Marie's seek to develop each individual with faith, love and respect for each other.

Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural Development Policy

Quote:

"God created man in the image of himself. And so it was that God saw all he had made and indeed it was very good" Genesis 1: 27

Our School

St Marie's is a Catholic school and our policy is based on the knowledge that God is present in each member of our school community. We demonstrate respect for each person created by God. All members of the school community including children staff parents and governors have been consulted regarding this policy.

Definitions:

Spiritual Development

The school is committed to developing each child's experience of themselves and their relationship to God. Central to this is the idea of an all loving God and a development each child's sense of their individual worth.

Moral Development

The school is committed to the development of a sense of right and wrong and an understanding of the need to make right choices. Children's experiences at home, the environment around them and their physical, cognitive, emotional and social skills all influence this moral development. Within the curriculum and in all activities within school, the focus will be on the dignity and worth of each person and promoting a just world.

Social Development

St Maries promotes the development of critical skills and the integration of social issues into the learning process. Learning includes a moral and ethical framework within which to discuss social concerns like world hunger, justice and peace, environmental awareness and the call to a simpler life.

Cultural Development

St Maries promotes the appreciation of the value and richness of a child's own culture and of cultural diversity, avoiding stereotyping.

Spiritual Development

Aims:

- To develop personal and religious beliefs
- To develop a love of Christ and to put Gospel values into practice as caring, happy Christians
- To help children to understand the Catholic faith through RE lessons, attending mass, assemblies, prayer and liturgy and preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist
- To develop a sense wonder and mystery in the world
- To enable children to express themselves freely
- To teach children to value their friendships, the school and parish community and to be prepared for the challenges that such relationships may bring

Objectives:

To enable children to develop:

- set of values, principles and beliefs which inform their perspective on life and how they behave
- an understanding of feelings and emotions and how these may affect their behaviour and the behaviour of others
- a sense of empathy, concern and compassion
- respect for themselves and others

Provision for spiritual development across school:

- The children partake in daily collective worship which allows them time for personal reflection and prayer. It allows the children time to think about their own social, moral, cultural and spiritual development.
- The approach to spiritual development is cross-curricular with the new RED lessons at its core.
- As a thinking school, we value pupils' questions and allow them space for their own thoughts, ideas and concerns.
- The curriculum is broad and balanced, allowing space for creativity. Each classroom is a safe space for children to express themselves.
- We provide children with a range of opportunities and experiences to develop their own spirituality as well as an understanding and respect for other religions and belief systems.
- In our abundance of nurture spaces, children can explore their thoughts, feelings and opinions in a safe space.
- The behaviour policy is restorative and positively encourages children to show respect, empathy and consideration for others, whilst developing responsibility and self-discipline.
- Staff modelling.
- Outdoor learning to promote awe and wonder and spiritual development by being one with God's Earth.

Moral Development

Aims

To enable children to:

- understand how to put into practice Gospel values

- recognise what is right and wrong
- make good, informed choices
- assume moral responsibility through belief and conviction
- ensure that their behaviour reflects the teachings of Christ

Objectives:

- To help children to distinguish between what is right and wrong, based on the teachings of Christ and moral codes of their own and other cultures.
- To help our children to respect themselves as well as others in the school community so that they can work cooperatively.
- To introduce children to the beliefs and values of people of other faiths and cultures so that they may approach the wider world with an open mind and respect for all.
- To help children to make informed choices by providing them with information, advice and support.
- To encourage children to express their views and let their voice be heard, whilst also listening to others with tolerance and respect.
- To help children to understand that they can have an impact on the world and make a difference through things such as fundraising, making a 'live simply' pledge and being part of the school council.

Provision for moral development across school:

- Through the teaching of the new RED, the Christian moral perspective will be emphasised while also sharing models of morality in other faiths and religions.
- Alongside the new RED, assemblies, collective worship, masses and PSHE will teach the children how to put into practice the morals and values that are important to us as Christians.
- Throughout school life, high expectations of behaviour are made clear and children are taught to respect others and reflect on their own choices.
- Through the quality of relationships and interactions, staff model fairness, integrity and respect whilst supporting children in resolving conflict.
- Pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their actions.
- Children are encouraged to challenge things that they know to be wrong, and are taught to do this in an appropriate manner.
- In working towards the Live Simply award through CAFOD, children are learning to take responsibility for our world and do what is needed to help others in our community, our country and the wider world.
- School provide extra curricular activities, such as 'board game club' to promote moral development.
- The books provided in our reading spine explore diversity and justice, allowing ample opportunity for children to question and discuss issues of morality.
- A whole school approach to 'zones of regulation' teach children to understand their feelings and emotions and to self-regulate.
- Visitors to the school such as healthy relationships workshops and guide dogs, and Paralympians allow children to understand how their morals, rooted in Gospel values, apply to the wider world, and they can develop their perspective on what is fair.
- Throughout school, we celebrate not only academic achievements, but positive decisions and actions made by children acting in line with our shared morals and values with our golden stars.
- Charity work and regular fundraising provide an opportunity for us all, as a school community, to do what is morally right and care for those who are less fortunate than us e.g The Brick, Big Lent Walk.

- In preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion children in Year 4 learn about forgiveness, compassion and empathy, tolerance, self-worth and respect.
- RSHE- teaching Relationships, Sex and Health Education through the Learning to Love agreed syllabus, Journey in Love, as recommended by Liverpool Archdiocese. The programme is delivered with sensitivity, ensuring that all family circumstances are recognised and respected.

The contribution of specific subjects to the delivery of SMSC

To Know You More Clearly

- Respect beliefs, values and the concept of spirituality.
- Reflect on the significance of religious teaching in their lives.
- Develop a respect for the beliefs of others.
- Show an understanding of the influence of religion on society.
- Foster an appreciation and understanding of different cultures, religions and traditions.
- CST
- Care for our common home.

Maths

- During maths lessons children learn to recognise how logical reasoning can be used to consider the consequences of particular decisions and choices.
- Reasoning in real life contexts help the children learn the value of mathematical truth.
- We encourage our children to work together productively on complex mathematical tasks and help them see the value of each contribution to a group.

English

- English sessions develop our children's confidence and expertise in language, which is an important aspect of individual and social identity.
- We strive to enable children to understand and engage with the feelings and values embodied in high quality poetry, fiction, drama, film and television.
- We develop children's awareness of moral and social issues in fiction, journalism, magazines, radio, television and film.
- Using lesson activities such as discussion and conscience alley to explore dilemmas and moral stories.

Science

- We encourage the children to reflect on the wonder of the natural world.
- We promote of the ways that Science and Technology can affect society and the environment.
- Our lesson structure allows the children to work in groups. This gives opportunities for co-operation in practical activity.
- Our study of famous scientists raises awareness that scientific developments are the product of many.
- We give opportunities for the children to show respect for different opinions.

Computing

- Computing lessons prepare the children for the challenges of living and learning in a technologically enriched, increasingly interconnected world.
- We make clear the guidelines about the ethical use of the internet and how we keep ourselves and others safe.

History

- Each topic looks at the creation and evolution of British society and wider societies.
- Our approach to the subject enables our children to reflect on issues such as war, conquest, invasion, slavery etc.
- Children have an awareness of the moral implications of the actions of historical figures.

Geography

- The children reflect on the creation of earth and its' origins, future and diversity.
- The children reflect on the fair distribution of the earth's resources and issues surrounding climate change.
- The children study human and physical geography and reflect on the social and cultural characteristics of society.

Modern Foreign Languages

- Children gain insights into the way of life, cultural traditions, moral and social developments of other people.
- Social skills are developed through group activities and communication exercises.
- Listening skills are improved through oral work.

Music

- We encourage children to be open to the music of other cultures.
- We discuss and reflect upon a range of personal experiences (own performance) and observed experiences (trips, concerts and peer performances)
- We look at the way music can change moods and behaviour.
- We offer a range of high quality off-timetable music enrichment activities.
- We listen to music together and use it to celebrate during assemblies.

Physical Education

- We plan activities involving co-operation, teamwork, competition, rules, self-discipline and fair play.
- We explore the sports and traditions of a variety of cultures.
- We plan individual activities that provide the opportunity for self-reflection, awareness and challenge.

Art

- Art lessons develop children's aesthetic appreciation.
- Art evokes feelings of 'awe' and 'wonder'.

- We give children the chance to reflect on nature, their environment and surroundings.

Design and Technology

- We reflect on products and inventions, the diversity of materials and ways in which design can improve the quality of our lives.
- Awareness of the moral dilemmas created by technological advances.
- We plan for opportunities to work as a team, recognising others strengths, sharing equipment.

Our extensive range of Extra-curricular activities also contribute significantly to the delivery of SMSC

School councilors e.g. art council, sports council, eco council

Play leaders

Young disciples – GIFT team

A range of extra-curricular clubs e.g. karate

Charity work

Assemblies

School productions

Visitors – priest, CAFOD

Trips

Links with Church.