

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Policy

Introduction

At Brook Learning Trust we bring together our unique academies in our belief in the power of education to change lives and communities. It is our steadfast purpose to challenge and defy the barriers that constrain the educational progress of any child. We set high aims for aspiration and secure collective responsibility for all our children's achievements. Our work is underpinned by the values of Integrity, Respect, Courage, Optimism, Excellence and Accountability.

At the Ebbsfleet Academy we strive to develop students who are responsible and respectful and have a strong moral purpose. As a subject area, Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development supports our students to become life-long learners and have constructive roles as citizens in our diverse and multi-cultural British society. A strong emphasis is placed on understanding and promoting British values across the Academy.

The Ebbsfleet Academy's SMSC curriculum delivery is designed to educate and encourage our students, in the separate components of the subject areas encompassed, to:

Spiritual

- Experience curiosity and take opportunities to be inquisitive
- Experience a sense of belonging
- Understand the value of relationships
- Experience prayer and worship
- Appreciate the natural world
- Be self-aware
- Reflect, and learn from reflection
- Develop a sense of identity and self-worth
- Recognise opportunities for imagination and creativity
- Explore religious beliefs and traditions
- Develop an understanding, caring attitude and to respect others
- Recognise and accept difference and diversity

Moral

- Acquire a clear moral code aligned with good citizenship and current legislation
- Embrace and promote equality and diversity
- Recognise and respect the moral codes and of members of other cultures
- Understand that society's values change

Cultural

- Understand and recognise their own cultural assumptions
- Understand the influences of our cultural heritage
- Encourage an openness to new ideas and to modify thinking to accommodate them
- Show respect and celebrate cultural diversity, including global, national and local communities
- Encourage a willingness to participate in cultural activities and enterprises
- Have regard for human achievement across cultures and societies
- Openness to new ideas and to modify thinking to accommodate them
- Be willing to participate in cultural activities and enterprises

This will be achieved, within the subject areas, by:

Moral

- Providing opportunities to explore right and wrong
- Facilitating decision making practice in moral matters
- Rewarding moral insight and good behaviour
- Providing models of moral virtue.
- Encouraging students to be confident to express their views on ethical issues and personal values

Social

- Fostering a sense of community
- Promoting the values of the school community
- Encouraging students to make a positive contribution towards their school community
- Encouraging pupils to work co-operatively
- Providing positive corporate experiences
- Providing a conceptual and linguistic framework for debate
- Engaging students in democratic processes
- Providing opportunities for students to exercise leadership and responsibility
- Developing students' inter-personal skills
- Providing links with the wider community and the world of work
- Developing individual self-evaluation

Cultural

- Developing opportunities for personal enrichment through cultural experiences
- Encouraging understanding and recognition of students' own cultural assumptions
- Providing opportunities for personal enrichment through cultural experiences

At the Ebbsfleet Academy we are committed to SMSC development across the curriculum. SMSC development takes place in structured tutor time discussions, weekly reflections in assemblies and discreet Personal, Social and Health Education and Religious Studies, and Global Studies lessons. Our students are encouraged to participate in a range of volunteering opportunities in the wider community. All staff are aware of their duty to promote SMSC.

POLICY REVIEW AND RATIFICATION

Policy reviewed every two years and ratified by the academy council in July

This review by SLT	June 2017
Summary of amendments to this iteration:	No changes made
Ratified by the academy council	June 2017
Next review & ratification	July 2019