

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. Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) education supports our students to become life-long learners and have constructive roles as citizens in the diverse and multi-cultural modern British society. A strong emphasis is placed on understanding and promoting British values across the Academy, as well as our own Academy Values (Integrity, Independence, Resilience, Respect and Confidence).

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

Social

- Understand the importance of communities, both within and outside school
- Develop a sense of moral purpose, in making a positive contribution to communities
- Develop skills of collaboration and cooperation with others
- Recognise the value of democratic processes
- Be reflective and evaluative

Cultural

- Understand and recognise cultural assumptions
- Understand the influences of our cultural heritage
- Be open to new ideas and to modify thinking to accommodate them
- Show respect and celebrate cultural diversity, including global, national and local communities
- Be willing to participate in cultural activities

- Have regard for human achievement across cultures and societies
- Be open 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:

Spiritual

- Providing religious education from a variety of perspectives
- Facilitating discussions about different religious beliefs and faith systems
- Providing opportunities to explore the diversity of society

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 through EA Prospects
- 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 SMSC discussions, weekly reflections, House Assemblies, House Charity Weeks and other additional events throughout the year. SMSC also takes place in the mainstream curriculum, through Personal, Social and Health Education, Religious Studies, and other Humanities lessons. Our students are encouraged to participate in a range of volunteering opportunities in the wider community. All staff members 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 2019
Summary of amendments to this iteration:	Complete re-write
Ratified by the academy council	June 2019
Next review & ratification	June 2021