

*Achieving personal and academic fulfilment through growing and learning together*

**Charlton-on-Otmoor CE Primary School**

Fencott Road  
Charlton-on-Otmoor  
Kidlington  
Oxon  
[OX5 2UT](mailto:parents@charltonono.co.uk)

**Headteacher:**

**Mr Ross Griffin LLB NPQH**

**Phone: 01865 331239**

**Email: [parents@charltonono.co.uk](mailto:parents@charltonono.co.uk)**

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## **POLICY FOR SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (S.M.S.C.)**

### **1. Introduction**

1.1 At Charlton-on-Otmoor C of E Primary School we recognise that the personal development of pupils, spiritually, morally, socially and culturally, plays a significant part in their ability to learn and achieve. We therefore aim to provide an education that provides pupils with opportunities to explore and develop their own values and beliefs, spiritual awareness, high standards of personal behaviour, a positive, caring attitude towards other people, an understanding of their social and cultural traditions and an appreciation of the diversity and richness of their cultures.

1.2 The National curriculum has two aims:

- The school curriculum should aim to provide opportunities for all pupils to learn and to achieve.
- The school curriculum should aim to promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and prepare all pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and expectations of life.

1.3 These two aims reinforce each other. SMSC plays a significant part in ability to learn and to achieve. All curriculum areas have a contribution to make to the child's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

1.4 Christian values, principles and spirituality will be explored throughout the curriculum. The integrity and spirituality of other faith backgrounds will be respected and explored. The diversity of spiritual traditions will be recognised, and pupils will be given access to alternative views.

1.5 All adults will model and promote expected behaviour, treating all people as valuable individuals and showing respect for pupils and their families. Children should learn to differentiate between right and wrong in as far as their actions affect other people. They will be encouraged to value themselves and others.

1.6 Children should understand the need for rules and the need to abide by rules for the good of everyone.

At Charlton-on-Otmoor Church of England Primary School we aim to follow these three golden rules:

- **Be friendly, respectful and kind**
- **Be responsible**
- **Be the best you can be**

All children in the school will follow the three golden rules and with their teacher, they will understand and recap on them daily, termly and annually. All staff will deal with behaviour issues in a calm and consistent manner, treating all children fairly using language appropriate for their age and phase. Staff use a restorative approach to conflict resolution providing pupils with a voice as well as an opportunity to understand the reasons for their behaviour and to find a solution.

1.7 All curriculum areas should seek to use illustrations and examples drawn from as wide a range of cultural contexts as possible. This will be reflected in the teacher's planning and learning resources.

## **2. Aims of S.M.S.C.**

2.1 To ensure that everyone connected with the school is aware of our values and principles.

2.2 To ensure a consistent approach to the delivery of SMSC issues through the curriculum and the general life of the school.

2.3 To ensure that a child's education is set within the context that is meaningful and appropriate to their age, aptitude and background.

2.4 To ensure that children know what is expected of them and why.

2.5 To give each child a range of opportunities to reflect upon and discuss their beliefs, feelings and responses to personal experience.

2.6 To enable children to develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.

2.7 To enable children to begin to develop an understanding of their social and cultural environment and an appreciation of the many cultures that now enrich our society.

2.8 To give each child the opportunity to explore social and moral issues and develop a sense of social and moral responsibility.

### **3. Learning and Teaching**

3.1 Spiritual Development – As a school we aim to provide learning opportunities that will enable children to:

- ✓ Sustain their self-esteem in their learning experience
- ✓ Develop their capacity for critical and independent thought
- ✓ Foster their emotional life and express their feelings
- ✓ Experience moments of stillness and reflection
- ✓ Discuss their beliefs, feelings, values and responses to personal experiences
- ✓ Form and maintain worthwhile and satisfying relationships
- ✓ Reflect on, consider and celebrate the wonders and mysteries of life.

3.2 Moral Development – as a school we aim to provide learning opportunities that will enable children to:

- ✓ Recognise the unique value of each individual.
- ✓ Recognise the challenge of religious teaching particularly that of Jesus.
- ✓ Listen and respond appropriately to the views of others.
- ✓ Gain the confidence to cope with setbacks and learn from mistakes.
- ✓ Take initiative and act responsibly with consideration for others
- ✓ Distinguish between right and wrong
- ✓ Show respect for the environment
- ✓ Make informed and independent judgements

3.3 Social Development – as a school we aim to promote opportunities that will enable pupils to:

- ✓ Develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.
- ✓ Learn about service in the school and wider community
- ✓ Begin to understand the need for social justice and a concern for the disadvantaged.

3.4 Cultural Development – as a school we aim to promote opportunities that will enable pupils to:

- ✓ Recognise the value and richness of cultural diversity in Britain, and how these influence individuals and society.
- ✓ Recognise and understand the importance of Christianity and other faiths

- ✓ Develop an understanding of their social and cultural environment.

3.5 Development in SMSC will take place across all curriculum areas. SMSC has particularly strong links to Religious Education, Collective Worship and Personal, Social, Health & Citizenship Education. Within all curricular activities, children will be encouraged to reflect on the significance of what they are learning, to recognise any challenges to their own attitudes and lifestyle and to recognise a spiritual dimension to their lives.

3.6 All curriculum areas should seek illustrations and examples drawn from as wide a range of cultural contexts as possible.

3.7 Through classroom discussions we will give the children opportunities to:

- ✓ Talk about personal experiences and feelings.
- ✓ Express and clarify their own ideas and beliefs
- ✓ Speak about difficult events, e.g. bullying, death etc
- ✓ Share thoughts and feelings with other people
- ✓ Explore relationships with friends/family/others
- ✓ Consider the needs and behaviour of others
- ✓ Show empathy
- ✓ Develop self-esteem and a respect for others
- ✓ Develop a sense of belonging
- ✓ Develop the skills and attitudes that enable children to develop socially, morally, spiritually and culturally e.g. empathy, respect, open-mindedness, sensitivity, critical awareness etc.

3.8 Our curriculum provides opportunities to:

- ✓ Listen and talk to each other
- ✓ Accept diversity in all its forms
- ✓ Agree and disagree
- ✓ Experiencing good role models
- ✓ Take turns and share equipment
- ✓ Work co-operatively and collaboratively

Practical activities to develop SMSC will include:

- ✓ Working together in different groupings and situations like gardening club

- ✓ Encouraging the children to behave appropriately at meal times by having Year 6 children as monitors.
- ✓ Taking responsibility e.g. school council, worship committee and lunchtime table monitors
- ✓ Encouraging teamwork in PE, games, house points teams and sports day
- ✓ Appreciation of and respect for the work and performance of other children regardless of ability.
- ✓ Meeting people from different cultures and countries
- ✓ Participating in a variety of different educational visits
- ✓ Participation in live performances
- ✓ Use of assembly themes to explore important aspects of our heritage and other cultures e.g. festival days, the patron saints and global events.
- ✓ Studying literature and art from different cultures supported by visits from writers and artists and participating in workshops
- ✓ Opportunities for the children to hear and see live performances by professional actors, dancers and musicians.
- ✓ Opportunities to make and evaluate food from other countries
- ✓ Opportunities in music to learn songs from different cultures and play a range of instruments including steel pans and samba
- ✓ Studying the contributions to society that certain famous people have made

#### **4. Links with the wider community**

- ✓ Links with the local church are fostered. Members of St Mary's church lead an Open the Book Collective Worship every two weeks.
- ✓ Visits to St Mary's Church, Oxford Synagogue and Oxford Mosque are arranged to support the understanding of a wider religious community.
- ✓ The school supports the work of a variety of charities.
- ✓ The development of strong home-school links is regarded as very important, enabling parents and teachers to work in an effective partnership to support the children.
- ✓ Children will be taught to appreciate and take responsibility for their local environment.

#### **5. Monitoring and Evaluation**

Provision for SMSC is monitored and reviewed on a regular basis. This is achieved by:

Monitoring of teaching and learning and work scrutiny by subject co-ordinator/head teacher/governors.

Regular discussions at staff and governors' meetings

Audit of policies

RE/PSHE/CW development.

Sharing of classroom work and practice

## **6. Inclusion**

The aims of our school, enabling each child to reach their full potential reflects our ethos of valuing individuality. We are committed to equality of opportunity regardless of race, cultural background, ability or any physical or sensory disability. We believe that all pupils have a right to experience a real environment in which they can learn that people are not all the same. We believe that inclusion is about the school fitting in around the child.

## **7. Implementation of Policy**

The implementation of this policy and the planning and teaching of SMSC is the responsibility of all staff.

## **RELATED POLICIES**

**Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development Policy** aims to prepare all pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and expectations of life.

**The Single Equality Scheme** states that inclusion for all pupils will be achieved by ensuring the learning environment, resources and activities are appropriate to each child. All staff are committed to inclusion and plan lessons that dispel stereotypical attitudes and discrimination.

**The Health and Safety Policy** is adhered to in everything we do. The learning environment, resources and activities are planned by staff to take account of this. Children are encouraged to be safety conscious and contribute to the risk assessment process themselves.

**The Special Educational Needs Policy** stipulates that pupils will be assessed and provided or as an integral part of every lesson. Staff are experienced in effective differentiation and provide opportunities for children to work on their Individual Education Plan targets in all areas of the curriculum.

**Internet Acceptable Use Policy** - In common with most technologies, Internet use presents risks as well as benefits. Pupils could be placed in inappropriate and even dangerous situations without mediated Internet

access. The headteacher and ICT coordinator will pass on current information and recommendations by CEOP, the Child Exploitation and On-line Protection Centre to staff and parents. Teachers will use CEOP's "ThinkUKnow" website with children in every class to ensure they understand the dangers of some internet use and are able to make the right choices themselves. Parents will be encouraged to access these materials at home with their children to embed these important safeguarding principles.

### **Whole School Safeguarding and Child protection Policy**

The purpose of Charlton-on-Otmoor C of E Primary School's safeguarding policy is to ensure every child who is a registered pupil at our school is safe and protected from harm. This means we will always work to;

Protect our children / young people from maltreatment

Prevent impairment of our children's / young people's health or development

Ensure that our children / young people grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care

Undertake that role so as to enable our children/young people to have optimum life chances and enter adulthood successfully.

### **Behaviour Policy**

At Charlton-on-Otmoor C of E Primary School we believe that helping children develop attitudes that will enable them to become kind, responsible, hardworking citizens is our most far-reaching role. We create overt opportunities for development of their self-esteem and work with parents to ensure children grow up with a positive sense of self-worth, aware of their rights and responsibilities in a community.

### **Anti-bullying Policy**

Charlton-on-Otmoor C of E Primary School will not tolerate any form of bullying. We believe that pupils and staff have the right to learn in an affirming and safe environment which promotes positive personal growth and self-esteem for all.