



St Leonard's CE Primary Academy

Living and Learning Together with God's Help

SMSC Policy

September 2023

At St Leonard's CE Primary Academy, we want our pupils to be successful, confident learners and responsible citizens. We recognise the importance of both the academic and personal development and well-being of every child in our school. This includes recognising the importance of providing a range of opportunities for our pupils to respond to, that supports their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Intent

At St Leonard's, our vision for SMSC is to ensure:

- SMSC education is promoted throughout the school to pupils, staff, parents/carers and visitors
- SMSC education is planned for and taught explicitly through lessons, assemblies and learning outside of the classroom
- SMSC education is developed through pupil voice, pupil leadership, children's rights, social action and behavior for learning
- Pupils and students develop respect and consideration for differences including gender, race and religion
- Our values system is based on British and Christian values
- Pupils and students are prepared for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life

Through Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) education, we aim to enrich and expand the lives of our young people, while developing their values, attitudes and beliefs. At St Leonard's, we approach SMSC in a way that is appropriate and relevant for our pupils.

Implementation

All curriculum areas have a contribution to make to the child's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and opportunities for this will be planned in each area of the curriculum.

All adults will model and promote expected behavior, treating all people as unique and valuable individuals and showing respect for pupils and their families.

The school community will be a place where pupils can find acceptance for themselves as unique individuals and where forgiveness and the opportunity to start again is fundamental to the ethos of the school.

Pupils 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.

Pupils should understand the need for rules and the need to abide by rules for the good of everyone. School and classroom rules should reflect, reiterate, promote and reward acceptable behavior and provide opportunities to celebrate pupils' work and achievements.

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 teacher's planning decisions.

Development in SMSC will take place across all curriculum areas, within activities that encourage pupils to recognise the spiritual dimension of their learning, reflect on the significance of what they are learning, and to recognise any challenges that there may be to their own attitude and lifestyle. Teachers will inspire pupils through the enthusiasm for and modelling of learning. Teachers at St Leonard's will use creative strategies and challenging questions to engage pupils in their learning and relate it to their own experiences. Assemblies are planned with an SMSC focus across the year whilst our Jigsaw PSHE teaching scheme promotes specific teachings that also encompass SMSC areas too.

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

Impact

Our pupils will collaborate critically, creatively and with a caring approach throughout their time at St Leonard's. They will become better able to reflect upon their behaviour and evaluate what makes for good behaviour and what a good learning should look like; this will allow better assessment of 'bad choices' and how to learn from these. Children are better aware of social media; how to be safe, utilize this productively and make good choices.

Pupils will be happy, as well as encouraging of others in and out of the classroom. There will be less children with low self-esteem and they will be better equipped to be resilient within a modern society. Children will have opportunities to fail, as well as the ability to discuss why failure is important, so that they are more resilient to failure and view this as a positive.

Through our SMSC approach, pupils are more likely to be aspirational (in all aspects of school life) and recognise their full potential beyond their time at St Leonard's. Confidence is instilled in St Leonard's children, so that they are more likely to push themselves outside of their comfort zones. Children leave the school with a sense of belonging to a tightly knit community where they have the confidence and skills to make decisions, self-evaluate, make connections and become lifelong learners.

Written by:	Mrs Welch
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