



ST STEPHEN'S CEVA PRIMARY SCHOOL, BATH

SMSC POLICY

This policy links with the RE, Collective Worship, Behaviour and Management of Bullying policies

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Rationale

At St Stephen's CEVA Primary School, we are a caring, Christian family and a commitment to develop every child spiritually, morally, socially and culturally is at the heart of our ethos. We achieve this through a combination of explicitly taught units of learning, by planning visits, visitors, Collective Worships and other school events and also through our day to day conversations and responses to the many social interactions and situations that occur in a school day.

Our approach to SMSC reflects the Church of England Education Office's vision to *"promote an education that allows children, young people and adults to live out Jesus' promise of 'life in all its fullness'. We believe this to be an education that enables every person to flourish in the widest sense: to grow in wisdom; to cultivate a wide-ranging knowledge that will help broaden life chances; to develop the spiritual, intellectual and emotional resources they need to live a good life; and to develop the character to live well together in community."*

Our approach to SMSC is therefore broad, multi-faceted and embedded within the culture of the school. This policy is intended to provide an overview of our guiding aims and key principles by which we intend to achieve them.

Aims

Spiritual development:

We aim to nurture the spirituality of the children and adults in our school community so that they become aware of their own 'inner voice', beliefs and motivation and so they are able to conduct themselves in a way which remains true to their personal ideology and faith. As a Voluntary Aided school we include Christian Spiritual practices such as prayer, worship, celebration of festivals and reading/reflection on the Bible within Collective Worship, RE and the wider curriculum. A key feature of our approach to spiritual development is our incorporation of stilling and contemplative prayer in class and whole school worship.

We are committed to:

- celebrating the religious and non-religious beliefs and values that our pupils bring as part of their family/culture heritage and to building an awareness of and respect for others' spiritual and religious beliefs
- fostering common human values and building spiritual capacities to promote self-worth self-esteem and a valuing of others
- helping our pupils to come to an understanding of themselves as unique individuals and encouraging them to reflect on ultimate questions
- developing our pupils' curiosity, imagination, creativity and promoting a sense of awe and wonder



Moral development:

We aim to support children in developing a set of moral principles to help them to be happy and successful members of the school community and, in the future, citizens of the world. We have three core expectations ('The Golden 3': be kind and respectful, listen carefully and try your best) and in addition seek opportunities for children to develop their own moral values by encouraging them to reflect upon fairness and to shape their own responses to daily occurrences.

We are committed to encouraging pupils to:

- be courageous in standing up for what they know to be right
- be truthful and honest
- respect the rights and property of others, their opinions and customs, even when they are different from our own
- help others
- solve differences of opinion in non-violent ways

Consequently we reject all forms of bullying, cruelty, dishonesty, violence and discrimination.

Social development:

We aim to develop an understanding in our children of the rights and responsibilities of living in a community and of being a "responsible citizen". We believe we have an important role to play in helping our children to become adults who show kindness and consideration to others, are excited about the opportunity they have to contribute to the world and are able to build positive and meaningful relationships with those around them.

We are committed to:

- fostering the skill and qualities of team building through the development of self-confidence, co-operation, sensitivity to others, reliability, initiative and understanding
- providing an environment where pupils can take responsibility for themselves and others in school and the wider society
- supporting children who identify an opportunity to use their initiative and contribute to the school community

We use the social and emotion aspects of learning (SEAL) programme to support our pupils' social development

Cultural development

Our core value of Love drives our commitment to inclusion and at the heart of this is our aim to actively celebrate the cultural diversity within our school, our society and the world. We intend for our children to enjoy the richness of living within a multi-cultural society and to develop the



knowledge and insight required to remain well-informed and inclusive as they move into their adult lives.

We are committed to:

- promoting an appreciation of our own cultural tradition/s and encouraging an appreciation of other peoples' cultural traditions
- celebrating the richness of culture and tradition
- Fostering an ethos of kindness and respect in all children and adults

Achieving Our Aims

We will ensure that the SMSC development of our pupils is promoted across the curriculum and in the wider life of the school by:

- providing an appropriate range of effective teaching and learning strategies that enables pupils to reflect on and respond to the issues of SMSC importance and concern
- maintain a positive climate in school in which all are valued and respected and expected to make a positive contribution
- encouraging teachers to plan for and respond to opportunities to develop SMSC development and to ensure subject leader have an understanding of SMSC education in their subject
- recognising the importance of our collective worship programme in supporting and encouraging SMSC development
- reviewing the effectiveness and impact of our policy and practice as part of our cycle of school development.