





SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL & CULTURAL (SMSC) POLICY

Date Reviewed	12 th December 2024
Signed Headteacher	
Signed Chair of Curriculum & Standards	
Date Revised	Autumn Term 2026

Rednal Hill Infant School is a community within which pupils learn about their personal development. They learn from their relationships with their teachers and other staff and also with each other. They also learn from observing how adults behave with one another and with the pupils. Children learn to care for others, to be generous, kind and respectful. Good experience in personal relationships in early life will make a most important contribution to an understanding of moral and spiritual values when they are older.

Spiritual Development

This area relates to the beliefs, feelings and emotions through which pupils acquire worthwhile insights into their own lives and all areas of the curriculum may contribute to the pupils' spiritual development. Although education and spiritual development are not synonymous, religious education can make a significant contribution to spiritual development.

At Rednal Hill Infant School the pupils will be provided with opportunities to develop their spiritual understanding by experiencing a curriculum which will:

- Allow them to develop a range of personal values, which may include a religious belief
- Allow them to consider the deeper meanings in familiar features of the natural world and their own experiences – develop a sense of curiosity through reflection on their own and other people's lives and beliefs
- Develop their self-esteem and self-knowledge and belief in themselves
- Encourage the development of relationships and the need to show empathy for others
- Allow them to express themselves in a variety of ways and give them time to reflect on their own experiences
- Explore the values of others for example in stories, drama, music, art and religious education
- Allow them to understand, express, use and control feelings and emotions
- Explore and encourage respect for beliefs of other people in the school and the wider community

Some of the ways in which Spiritual Development is nurtured at RHIS are:

- Educational visits, to expose pupils to a range of experiences, which may promote a sense of awe and wonder
- Achievement/effort certificates through weekly Congratulations Assemblies, lunchtime awards, stickers, whole school behaviour rocket which helps develop pupils' self esteem
- The PSHE programme which develops self-esteem and knowledge of ourselves and others.
- Elected School Council for pupils to advocate their views and concerns
- Visiting musicians, artists and other specialists who provide interactive workshops and assemblies such as Birmingham Mission and local PCSO.
- Displays of pupils' work
- Fortnightly Forest School sessions.
- Year 2 monitors during lunchtime
- A curriculum which has an emphasis on values and beliefs, community and conservation
- Quality collective worship which reflects a range of values and beliefs and encourages children to reflect through prayer and evaluate a range of appropriate music

Moral Development

Moral development refers to the pupils' knowledge, understanding, intentions, attitudes and behaviour in relation to what is right and wrong. The school has a well-established Behaviour Policy and the staff actively promote the notion of avoiding confrontational behaviours at all times.

The school has the following motto; **Achieve, Believe, Create** and the following values:

- ❖ **Honesty**
- ❖ **Resilience**
- ❖ **Respect**
- ❖ **Fairness**
- ❖ **Trust**
- ❖ **Responsibility**

These values are displayed in the hall as well as in each classroom on the working walls. Examples of children showing the values are then highlighted, displayed and updated regularly. All classes establish classroom rules that are linked to values, lunchtime and playground rules at the start of each academic year. These will be revisited daily to ensure a whole school consistent approach. School Values Champion stickers are used to promote and acknowledge when children display the values.

Some of the ways in which moral development is promoted at RHIS are:

- Clear models of good behaviour
- Policies and procedures which promote turn taking and listening skills
- Drama, role-play, story telling and circle time
- Group work and discussions
- Assembly themes
- Thought for the Week
- No outsiders ethos across whole school
- Fund raising activities for others
- Incidents, which occur in school which, may give an opportunity for teaching about morality and behaviour.
- Assemblies and curriculum which celebrate morals and good behaviour

Social Development

Social development relates to the skills and personal qualities necessary for individuals to live and function effectively in society.

At Rednal Hill Infant School the pupils will be encouraged to:

- Maintain and develop relationships within the school
- Work successfully with other children and adults in the school community
- Participate co-operatively and productively in the school community
- Respond to the opportunities being offered to show initiative and to take some responsibility for their own learning
- To become co-operative and productive members of the community beyond school
- Gain an understanding of society through their family and carers, the school, local and wider communities.

Some of the ways in which we promote social development at RHIS are:

- PSHE
- The overall ethos of the school
- School's teaching and learning
- Value of social communication across school
- School Vision

Cultural Development

Cultural development refers to pupils increasing understanding and response to those elements, which give societies, and groups their unique character. The school will promote the cultural traditions of our own area and the ethnic and cultural diversity of the world.

The pupils will be encouraged to:

- Appreciate, understand and respect aspects of their own and other cultural environments in terms of beliefs, values, attitudes, customs, knowledge and skills. Recognise those similarities and differences may exist between different societies and groups
- Experience a range of cultural activities in terms of literature, music, technology, art and design, dance, drama, sport and other media
- Broaden, develop and enrich their interests and insights

Some of the ways in which we promote cultural development at RHIS are:

- Educational visits
- Religious Education programme
- Collective worship
- Watching Newsround
- Assemblies
- Topic work
- The overall ethos of the school
- No Outsiders ethos across the whole school and displayed in school
- Visiting artists, musicians, and people from other cultures and religion
- Access to the Internet (Supervised)
- Multicultural Weeks and other themed days