

**Charlwood Village Primary School**  
**Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education**



**Review Date:** Autumn 2023

**Next Review Date:** Autumn 2024

*At Charlwood Village Primary School we believe that Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education is the 'golden thread' that runs through the curriculum and is the 'soul' of the school. We believe that opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural experiences, both planned and spontaneous, should be found in every lesson, every day. For this to be achieved we recognise that all staff understand, plan and respond to spiritual, moral, social and cultural opportunities.*

**Spiritual Development**

We believe that spiritual development opportunities allow pupils to discuss and explore their feelings, emotions, faith and compassion. We believe that some of the planned ways we provide these opportunities are through; PSHE, class and school assemblies. Big Think Time and social skills as well as through our topic based curriculum. Spiritual development experiences also include opportunities to engage in open-ended enquiry, contemplation, meditation and reflection. Some of the planned ways we provide these opportunities are through; Eco-School meetings, School Council Meetings and through curriculum areas such as RE.

Spiritual development also includes sharing experiences that lead to insight into the meaning and purpose of life. This can be achieved through using pupils own personal life experiences such as birthdays, the arrival of new family members, personal bereavement etc. At Charlwood Village Primary School we develop the pupils spiritual development by showing them resources and artefacts linked to their topic, use of school visitors, curriculum enhancement days, class trips, through asking the pupils about what they already know and what they would like to learn in advance of starting a topic as appropriate.

**Moral Development**

We believe that moral development opportunities allow pupils to explore the consequences of their actions that can be taken in various scenarios. It also encourages pupils to know and consider the views of others, even when this differs from their own view. This is also part of our teaching on the British Values. It encourages pupils to understand that some views can be unfair and unjust which affects their own and others' lives. By exploring our own moral beliefs we encourage pupils to challenge 'negative' comments or incidents which they may see or hear in others. This will then help pupils to understand the difference between 'right' and 'wrong' which may impact on time spent outside of school as well as inside. At

Charlwood Village Primary School we believe that we provide opportunities to develop the pupils' moral education through assemblies, class discussion, PSHE curriculum, circle time, RE and focus weeks such as 'Anti-Bullying Week'. We reinforce the importance of morals by holding charity days, pupils earning 'privileges' and rewards for consistently good behaviour at lunchtime as well as class based reward systems. Often moral education is taught as opportunities arise during the school day. Pupils also learn about national and global events which can often lead on to a discussion about morals.

### **Social Development**

At Charlwood Village Primary School we provide lots of social development opportunities. Through whole school, class and one to one discussions we offer pupils the opportunity to form, express and justify their personal opinions. Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 pupils use Big Think Time to work in small groups with an adult to talk about and discuss issues and philosophical questions. In all lessons, pupils are encouraged to give feedback as well as receive it from adults and peers. We also ask our Key Stage 1 pupils at the beginning of the academic year to do this in assemblies and Big Think Time and talk partners. Through after school events and clubs, and groups such as Eco Council and School Council, pupils have many opportunities to develop socially. Pupils are encouraged to collaborate and negotiate in lessons, on school trips, at playtimes and in enhancement workshops. In PSHE the pupils are shown strategies for resolving conflict positively, these opportunities are also taken up as they arise during the school day. We also have a trained Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA) to support individual pupils with social and emotional issues.

### **Cultural Development**

Cultural development includes the opportunity to expose learners to diversity; this could be through ethnic and social groups and different types of families. It also means exploring differences in cultures for example language, faith, dress, food, sports, music. At Charlwood Village Primary School, we believe we provide some of these opportunities in RE, PSHE, topic work, our link with our chosen charity, assemblies, and multi-cultural celebrations. Through our curriculum, we also provide opportunities for pupils to develop their appreciation of the arts through workshops and visits from specialists. We also explore British culture by celebrating British events such as the Jubilee. We also talk about the different Saints days as well as exploring the diversity of Britain, Remembrance Day, Armistice Day and bonfire night.

*Although the different elements of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education have been detailed separately in everyday life this is simply not the case as they are very much interlinked with each other. This means that at any time during the school day through one activity more than one of these elements could be being addressed.*

### **Related Policies**

Please also refer to the following policies:

- Behaviour
- Child Protection and Safeguarding
- Religious Education
- Anti-Bullying
- Online Safeguarding
- Special Educational Needs

### **Monitoring**

To ensure that SMSC is at the heart of education at Charlwood Village Primary School the Governors and Leadership Team will carry out the following:

- Annual review of the policy
- Governor monitoring
- Headteacher monitoring