



## HOCKLIFFE LOWER SCHOOL

### Social, Moral, Cultural and Spiritual Policy

#### **Rationale**

We recognise that the personal development of pupils spiritually, morally, socially, and culturally plays a significant part in their ability to learn, achieve and live as positive, well balanced citizens. We believe that all members of our school community should model and promote positive values and behaviour, treating everyone as valuable individuals and showing respect for all.

#### **Aims**

We therefore aim to create a school ethos and provide an education that gives children opportunities to explore and develop...

- their own values, beliefs and spiritual awareness
- high standards of personal behaviour
- caring attitudes and positive relationships with others
- an understanding of their social and cultural traditions
- an understanding of the British values of democracy, the rule of law and individual liberty
- an appreciation, respect and tolerance of the cultures and beliefs of others

#### **Social Development**

Children will be given opportunities to:

- develop an understanding of their individual and group identity
- contribute positively to the lives of help others in the school and wider community
- show concern for those less fortunate than themselves
- begin to understand the need for social justice
- form and maintain worthwhile and satisfying relationships
- to understand rights and responsibilities
- to understand what it means to be part of society and be an active citizen
- develop team spirit
- to understand and engage in the democratic process

#### **Moral Development**

Children will be given opportunities to:

- begin to recognise the unique value of each individual
- listen and respond appropriately to the views of others
- accept the equal value of each person
- create appropriate rules fro their school and class which ensure the well-being and safety of the school community
- gain the resilience and confidence to cope with setbacks and learn from mistakes
- act responsibly and with consideration for the needs of others
- distinguish between right and wrong
- to respect and develop their understanding of the civil and criminal law of this country
- show respect for the environment and all living things
- make informed and independent judgements
- think through, discuss and accept responsibility for the consequences of their actions
- make responsible and reasoned judgements on moral dilemmas e.g. discrimination

## **Cultural Development**

Children will be given opportunities to:

- recognise the value and richness of cultural diversity in Britain, and how these influence individuals and society
- develop an awareness of their social and cultural environment.
- appreciate the expressive arts of different cultures
- develop partnerships which extend their understanding of regional, national, European and global cultures

## **Spiritual Development**

Children will be given opportunities to:

- sustain and develop their self-esteem, self-confidence and self-knowledge in their learning experience
- develop their capacity for critical and independent thought
- foster their emotional wellbeing and ability to express their feelings
- experience moments of stillness and reflection
- discuss their beliefs, feelings, values and responses to personal experiences
- develop their knowledge of the faiths and beliefs of others
- foster their acceptance and tolerance of those that have faiths and beliefs that differ to their own
- reflect on, consider and celebrate the wonders and mysteries of life.

## **Guidelines**

Opportunities for SMSC are promoted through

- A rich and varied curriculum
- Daily assemblies
- Values education- half termly value shared with children and parents
- Circle time discussions
- Collaborative and co-operative play and learning
- Children's participation in the establishment of their own school and classroom rules
- The school's 'vertical team system'
- Global learning and international partnerships
- Organising School events to raise money for worthy causes including supporting British services.
- Nurturing groups and counselling
- Effective transition programmes
- Cultural, artistic and sporting events
- Visiting musicians, artists, theatre groups and authors
- Learning community inter school activities
- Outdoor learning
- School council
- Eco council
- Positive playtime and lunchtime activities both structured and unstructured
- Allocation of age appropriate responsibilities to pupils
- Celebration Assembly- sharing children's success and endeavour
- Special days and themed weeks
- Day and residential educational visits

## **Monitoring and evaluation**

Children's social, moral, spiritual and cultural development is monitored daily through pupil teacher interaction and observation of teaching, learning and play. Regular discussions relating to children's social and emotional well-being take place at staff meetings. In addition SMSC provision is monitored and evaluated by planning and curriculum reviews.

November 2015

Review Date- November 2017.

Adopted by the Governing body \_\_\_\_\_ (Chair) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)