



Frieth C.E.C. School

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural and the  
Promotion of British Values policy

Member of staff responsible: Headteacher

Governor responsible: Curriculum and Policy Committee

Headteacher's signature: Martin Gosling

Chair of Governor's signature: Jill Dean

The personal development of pupils (SMSC) is a major aim of education, and is central to the education of the whole child/person. It is a statutory requirement that clear and planned provision is made for SMSC for all pupils. The National Curriculum 2000 states that: "The school curriculum should aim to promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and prepare all pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life." At Frieth CEC School, our ethos is focused on the development of the whole person and SMSC values pervade all aspects of school life and all subjects.

We believe that education is value-inherent and are thus proactively committed to the promotion of skills, awareness and dispositions that enable our pupils to develop their capacity to explore their own and others' values and beliefs in a safe and respectful but challenging environment.

The purpose of this policy is to state clearly the shared values and aims of the school and to ensure that they are reflected in our practice through the effective promotion of opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Opportunities for SMSC are both planned and spontaneous, arising out of the day-to-day experience of pupils and staff in and beyond the school.

### **Core beliefs**

At Frieth school, we believe in:

- the ultimate value of every individual in the school community;
- education as a means for developing as a human being as well as for learning;
- school as a place for the development of the whole person.

### **Frieth School Vision statement:**

*'...Your light must shine before people,  
so that they see the good things you do.'*

**Matthew 5:16**

### **Values:**

These are the Christian Values that you believe are both taught and learnt in our school.

Kindness  
Honesty  
Creativity  
Responsibility  
Resilience  
Respect

This is the shared vision for the school and we periodically revisit these with staff, pupils and parents to remind ourselves of what we are about and to ensure that we continue to promote them effectively.

At Frieth school we recognise the importance of this vision because:

- People, staff as well as students, achieve better when they feel valued
- Our beliefs and values influence the way we behave and the community we live in

- Education is about the development of the whole person.

### **Aims of the Policy**

Frieth C.E.C. School aims to:

- To promote a shared understanding of what SMSC is, and to identify opportunities for SMSC across the whole school.
- To enable all aspects of the school to meet the personal development needs of the students.
- To enrich the pupils' experience of the curriculum.
- To make explicit the value of the work of both pupils and staff.
- To enable students to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence;
- To enable students to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England;
- To encourage students to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely;
- To enable students to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England;
- To further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling students to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures;
- To encourage respect for other people;
- To encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.

We explored the meanings of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural values in the context of Frieth CEC School and arrived at the following working definitions, whilst accepting that no definition is absolute.

**SMSC** is a dimension of the whole school experience which makes the curriculum relevant, stimulating, creative and fun. It enriches each subject and the ethos of the whole school by encouraging us all to explore, in an appropriate way:

**Spiritual values** this is the innermost core of human nature, including an awareness of themselves and others. It is an understanding of beliefs, perspectives and ideas which informs how we live.

**Moral values** are those that help to develop a framework that allows all children to make the right decisions and choices based on a code of respect, values and tolerance.

**Social values** are developing an ability to build healthy, respectful relationships for ourselves, others and our community.

**Cultural values** are an awareness of our own culture, arts, traditions, music etc and a willingness to participate in them. It is an understanding of how different people live, their traditions and values. It is celebrating this knowledge through an appreciation of diversity and difference.

## **How we promote opportunities for SMSC**

### SMSC in the curriculum

- is a way of making the curriculum relevant to the experiences, past, present and future, of the pupils.
- provides depth and integrity to what we do.
- humanises the curriculum.

All subjects can and should contribute to this and identify in plans where this will be done and possible areas where they may arise naturally. Because we have a shared understanding of SMSC and British values, teachers are better able to identify both planned and spontaneous opportunities across the whole curriculum.

## **Whole-school promotion of SMSC and British Values**

### a) School Ethos

The promotion of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development provides the why (as opposed to the what and how) of education: it is an essential ingredient of school success. Every adult in school has a major role to play in promoting this. Values are communicated both implicitly and explicitly. The way we respond to pupils, the relationships we build with them, the example we set, all express the values we live by and can be shared and explored through Collective Worship (see CW policy). It is expected that in all our dealings with pupils, we all strive to adhere to and promote these values.

### b) School Curriculum

Every subject area contributes to the SMSC Development of students and will highlight in medium-term planning opportunities for SMSC and the promotion of British Values. These will not be tablets of stone: sometimes these opportunities might not be appropriate, or other opportunities might arise. SMSC is organic and grows through our responses to the opportunities provided by our subjects, our interests and above all by the experiences and interests of the students. Our clear understanding of the role of SMSC and values in education and our commitment to promote it will be the key to our success in .....

### c) learning and teaching

Teachers will inspire pupils through the enthusiasm for and modelling of learning. Teachers will use creative strategies and challenging questions to engage pupils in their learning and relate it to their own experiences.

### d) Extra-curricular activities and community links

Personal development is enriched through a wide range of extra-curricular activities, which provide opportunities for SMSC and for inspiring pupils to broaden their experience and horizons. These make a significant contribution to the ethos and spirit of the school.

We work in partnership with parents and the wider community to make sure that we give our pupils the best possible environment in which to grow, flourish and learn.

