



Social, Moral, Spiritual, Cultural Policy 2022-23

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At The Holgate Academy our mission statement 'Manners, Determination and Teamwork' exemplifies our ethos and approach to the importance of the development of all aspects of SMSC and British Values. Holgate champions and firmly believes in a holistic comprehensive education that ensures all our pupils are 'rounded and grounded'. We recognise that the development of pupils, spiritually, morally, socially and culturally plays a significant part not only in their ability to learn and achieve but in their ability to relate fully to and contribute usefully to wider society. We therefore aim to provide an education that provides pupils with opportunities to explore and develop their own and shared British values, whilst recognising beliefs of others may differ. Beliefs, spiritual awareness, high standards of personal behaviour including a positive caring attitude towards other people, an understanding of their social and cultural traditions and an appreciation of the diversity and richness of other cultures are all critical skills and dispositions that we nurture, encourage and develop through our ethos, subject and wider curriculum.

All curriculum areas contribute to a pupil's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and opportunities for this are planned in each area of the curriculum. Belief values, principles and spirituality will be explored across the curriculum. The integrity and spirituality of faith backgrounds will be respected and explored. The diversity of spiritual traditions will be recognised, and pupils will be given access to alternative views.

All adults at the Academy are expected to model and promote socially responsible behaviour in line with core British Values, treating all people as valuable individuals and showing respect for pupils and their families and stakeholders. Pupils should learn to differentiate between right and wrong in as far as their actions affect other people. They will be encouraged to value themselves and others.

Pupils should understand their rights and accept their responsibilities as well as the need to respect the rights of others. The Academy Consequence Pathway promotes responsible behaviour. All curriculum areas should seek to use illustrations and examples drawn from as wide a range of cultural contexts as possible. This will be reflected in the teacher's planning and learning resources.

General aims

We aim to ensure:

- That everyone connected with the Academy is aware of our values and principles.
- A consistent approach to the delivery of SMSC issues and British Values through the curriculum and the general life of the Academy.
- That a pupil's education is set within the context that is meaningful and appropriate to their age, aptitude and background.
- That pupils have a clear understanding of their responsibilities and how to exercise them.

Through classroom activities and dialogue in the wider curriculum we will give pupils opportunities to:

- Share their achievements and successes.

- Discuss personal experiences and feelings.
- Express and clarify own ideas and beliefs.
- Speak about difficult events, e.g. bullying, death etc.
- Explore relationships with friends/family/others.
- Consider the needs and behaviour of others.
- Show empathy.
- Share in the Academy ethos
- Develop self-esteem and a respect for others.
- Develop a sense of belonging.
- Develop the skills and attitudes that enable pupils to develop socially, morally, spiritually and culturally e.g. empathy, respect, open-mindedness, sensitivity, critical awareness etc.

All curriculum areas provide opportunities to:

- Listen and talk to each other.
- Promote core British Values such as equality, justice, democracy and fairness
- Develop an awareness of treating all as equals, accepting people who are different because of physical and learning difficulties
- Agree and disagree.
- Experience good role models.
- Take turns and share ideas and equipment.
- Work co-operatively and collaboratively.

All curriculum areas plan and provide opportunities to cultivate:

Spiritual Development

- Sustain their self-esteem in their learning experience.
- Develop their capacity for critical and independent thought.
- Foster their emotional life and express their feelings.
- Experience moments of stillness and reflection.
- Discuss their beliefs, feelings, values and responses to personal experiences.
- Form and maintain worthwhile and satisfying relationships.
- Reflect on, consider and celebrate the wonders and mysteries of life.

Moral Development

- Recognise the unique value of each individual.
- Listen and respond appropriately to the views of others.
- Gain the confidence to cope with setbacks and learn from mistakes.
- Take initiative and act responsibly with consideration for others.
- Distinguish between right and wrong.
- Show respect for the environment.
- Make informed and independent judgements.
- Take action for justice.
- Develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.

- Helping others in the school and wider community.

Cultural Development

- Recognise the value and richness of cultural diversity in Britain.
- Recognise the role of British Values as part of our culture and national identity.
- Develop an understanding of the UK's local, national, European, Commonwealth and global dimensions.

Practical activities to develop SMSC will include:

- Working together in different groupings and situations.
- Encouraging the children to behave appropriately at meal times.
- Taking responsibility e.g. Form Captains/Vice Cpts, Form and Council reps, Prefects, Team Captains and wider leadership roles.
- Encouraging teamwork in all group activities.
- Showing appreciation of the performances of other pupils regardless of ability.
- Meeting people from different cultures and countries.
- Participation in a variety of different educational visits.
- Participation in live performances.
- Use of assembly themes to explore important aspects of our heritage and other cultures e.g. festival days, the patron saints and national celebrations.
- Studying the 'Arts' from different cultures.
- Studying the contributions to society that certain famous, historical and influential people have made.

Links with the wider community

- Visitors are welcomed into the Academy.
- The Academy will support the work of a variety of charities.
- The development of strong home-school communication routes is regarded as very important, enabling parents and teachers to work in an effective partnership to support the children.
- Children will be taught to appreciate and take responsibility for their local environment.
- Liaison with local schools to support the primary curriculum e.g. creative and expressive arts, PE and games.

We firmly believe that the effective provision and delivery of a curriculum that serves to accomplish all the aforementioned aspects of SMSC development will purposefully ensure our pupils develop the skills they need to achieve success and fulfilment in life.