



Faith, Family and Fascination

Spiritual, Social, Moral and Cultural (SMSC) Policy

Boutcher C.E. Primary School

Reviewed by: Governing Body

Last reviewed during: Autumn 2024

Next review due by: Autumn 2026

*“Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”
John 13:34*

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Rationale

As a Church of England School our ethos is founded on the values of the Christian Gospel. We believe it is our responsibility to enable every child to develop spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness in a loving and open environment. We actively promote the fundamental British Values as stated by the Government.

Aims

We aim to develop children across the curriculum to be the kind of people that show our school values – Faith, Family and Fascination – as well as the Fruits of the Spirit. We aspire for our children to grow into adults with a love of learning and curiosity about the world that stays with them for life. At Boutcher Church of England Primary School our aims are as follows:

Spiritual development

- To allow pupils the time to build relationships, with God for those who believe, and with other people.
- To give them the time and space to consider their individual identity.
- To learn ways to respond to challenging experiences.
- To encourage pupils to search for meaning and purpose in life and for values by which to live.

Moral development

- To develop children's understanding of what is right, wrong and fair.
- To understand what democracy means and exercise their right to vote in school council elections etc.
- Helping the child to realise that to enjoy rights we have to accept responsibilities.
- Developing the child's understanding of why rules are necessary and the importance of following rules.
- Classes discuss the rules at the start of each year and revisit them regularly.
- Developing the child's self-discipline so that rules are observed as a point of principle and not out of the fear of sanctions.
- Giving the child the knowledge and ability to question and to reason so that they are capable of deciding on the most appropriate action after considering the consequences of an action.
- Develop the skills necessary to explain their own behaviour, accept responsibility, make amends and know they have a fresh start.

Social

- To develop skills such as co-operation, collaboration, responsibility, teamwork, perseverance and taking the initiative.
- To explain the rights and responsibilities of individuals within the social setting.
- To recognise the need to live as Christian Brothers and Sisters in society.
- To communicate with others effectively.
- Engage in activities which benefit others.
- Look after each other as a family through community afternoons, buddy system and play leaders.

Cultural

- To recognise that all cultural groups are distinctive.
- To understand culture is embodied in shared beliefs, knowledge, customs and values of a group.

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- To appreciate the distinctive features of their own culture and those of others.
- To respect others' cultures.
- To participate in activities that celebrate culture including our annual carnival, making the most of music and dance opportunities.
- To allow children the time to answer questions such as "Who am I" and "Where do I fit in?"

British Values

We promote British values to ensure our young people leave school prepared for life in modern Britain. We provide them with time and opportunities to develop their understanding of British values in the following ways:

Democracy

- Children are taught about the democratic system through school elections and mock elections.
- Children will have opportunities to participate in educational visits to parliament, our local council, the Mayor's office and councillors will sometimes visit our school.
- Children will learn about democracy through carefully selected history topics such as WW2, Romans, Greeks and Islamic Civilisation.

Rule of Law

- Children are taught about rights and responsibilities.
- We encourage visits by the police and community officers.
- Our Year Six class attends a citizenship course run by the borough (other classes participate as opportunities arise).

Individual Liberty

- Children are taught to be aware and how to stay safe online.
- We teach children to make safe choices and educate them in doing so through the curriculum e.g. RE, Science, PSHE, PE, Computing etc

Mutual Respect

- Mutual respect is at the heart of our school ethos and children understand this.
- Children learn that their behaviour has an effect on their own rights and those of others.
- All members of the school community treat each other with respect. We reinforce the understanding that we are all equal with different qualities, backgrounds, interests and personalities. We celebrate personal achievements and interests.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

- In an area which is culturally diverse, we place a great emphasis on celebrating diversity with the children. Our RE, PSHE and SMSC teaching reinforce this.
- Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school.
- Children visit places of worship that are important to different faiths.
- We do not tolerate any form of bullying and children take part in various events and activities yearly during Anti-Bullying week and at other times of the year.
- We celebrate a range of faiths by bring pupils and their families together to celebrate and share their culture through music and food tasting.

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Equal Opportunities Statement

At Boutcher School we are committed to ensuring Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education is suitable for all children and inclusive to all ranges of abilities, social and cultural backgrounds, physical and emotional needs.

Organisation and delivery

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development and British Values will be achieved through the whole curriculum which includes through the subjects taught (in particular Religious Education) and the activities and experiences which make up the broader curriculum. There will be opportunities for development in all four areas through the following:

- Community afternoons
- Group and team work within the curriculum;
- Quiet times for thought and reflection within the class and at assembly time and services;
- Exploring feelings and emotions within class, at assemblies and in Circle Time;
- School Council
- Faith Leaders
- School Ambassadors
- The PDC
- Fund raising for charities
- Displays
- Collective Worship
- Visits to church for specific occasions;
- Visits from the Vicar
- Educational visits

Monitoring of provision

The success of this policy will be determined by viewing our children as they work and play in the school community.

Monitoring and Review:

All staff are given the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education Policy, its importance is explained and staff are given the opportunity to comment on the policy.

Parents can view the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education Policy at the School Office.

Governors discuss and review the policy biennially.