

## St. Paul's School, Chipperfield



*"Love to learn; Learn to love."*

### **Spiritual, Moral, Cultural and Social Development Policy** **April 2019**

#### Introduction

Spiritual Development is concerned with providing pupils with opportunities to rise above the ordinary; to explore the world in which they live; to recognise the value of relationships; to learn to express feelings and emotions, to engage with the complexities and ambiguities they will experience in life ; to look at the world in which they live with a fresh vision; and for some, it will be an opportunity to engage with religious faith.

St Paul's C of E Primary School follows equal opportunities guidance which guarantees that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status, or similar. Our whole school community lives out our core Christian Values (Responsibility, Respect, Hope, Forgiveness, Cooperation, Courage, Honesty, Appreciation, Perseverance, Love, Friendship, Wisdom, Thankfulness, Justice, Peace, Service, Sharing and Compassion) through what we say and do in school.

#### Aims

- To develop pupil's awareness of the spiritual aspects of life
- Engage the pupils in an exploration of the world in which they live
- Allow pupils to explore their own feelings and emotions
- Give pupils opportunities to express their ideas and experiences about relationships, beliefs and practices.

#### Organisation and learning

The importance of the pupil's spiritual development is recognised in every aspect of school life. In reflecting on; life, the world, experiences and relationships, spiritual development is intrinsically linked to our school motto 'Love to Learn ; Learn to love.' There is a strong link between Spiritual Development and Religious Education (See St Paul's School Religious Education Policy.) However, spirituality does not have to be religious, it is also based on human experience and the creative and expressive side of the personality and the human spirit.

Spiritual development is concerned with developing the non-material aspects of life, focusing on personal insight, values, meaning and purpose. Children explore the fundamental British Value of exploring and respecting the values and beliefs of others.

As a cross curricular approach to Spiritual Development is adopted at St Paul's School, each subject area is able to make a significant contribution. A number of cross curricular skills such as; reflection application, interpretation, empathy,

evaluation and self-understanding are developed and a variety of teaching strategies are used.

Moral development is largely about choices, behaviour and how you live your life. It's also about personal and societal values, understanding the reasons for them and airing and understanding disagreements. Children develop the fundamental British Value of investigating moral values and ethical issues, and recognising and applying right and wrong.

Social development shows pupils working together effectively, relating well to adults and participating in the local community. It also includes the fundamental British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Cultural development is about understanding and feeling comfortable in a variety of cultures and experiencing a range of cultural activities (for example art, theatre, travel, concerts). Children develop the fundamental British Value of exploring, understanding and tolerance regarding the diversity of cultural traditions and beliefs of others.

Pupils are encouraged to reflect on what and how they learn through the use of open questions, Reflection corners are established in classrooms across the school to enable pupils to pause, engage, explore, express and reflect individually.

**Consultation:** This policy was written by the RE Coordinator and Head Teacher in consultation with governors.

Equal opportunities: Under the Equality Act 2010 we have a duty not to discriminate against people on the basis of their age, disability, gender, gender identity, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation. We believe that this policy is in line with the Equality Act as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any pupil and it helps to promote equality at this school.

**Principles/values:**

*This policy is based on our commitment to:*

- *Fairness*
- *Excellence*
- *Respectfulness*

Governor approval and review dates: This policy will be reviewed in April 2021