



# Westways Primary School

## Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development Policy

September 2021  
This policy will be reviewed every 3 years

## **Rationale**

At Westways Primary School, we believe that the lessons pupils learn in school extend beyond what is taught in the formal curriculum. The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all pupils is given high priority and addressed throughout the daily life of the school. We constantly strive to develop a positive and welcoming atmosphere, which is based on a sense of community and shared values in keeping with life in modern Britain.

These values determine behaviour around school and in the classrooms. Pupils are encouraged to develop positive work attitudes combined with sensitivity and tolerance towards each other. Opportunities exist within the whole curriculum to help pupils acquire the knowledge and skills to enable them to develop an understanding of spiritual, moral, cultural and social issues, reflect on them, and extend their experience and understanding.

Religious Education and Collective Worship have a particularly important role to play in the development of the associated qualities and skills. We also believe that pupils can extend their social and cultural interests through the provision of a range of extra curricular activities, and work hard to provide access to these for as many pupils as possible.

## **Aims**

- To continue to develop a positive school ethos which promotes spiritual and moral development.
- To seek opportunities throughout the whole curriculum to help pupils develop the appropriate attitudes, qualities and skills.
- To ensure that Religious Education and Collective Worship give opportunities for spiritual awareness and growth, tolerance and understanding, positive attitudes and sensitivity, and a sense of community and celebration.
- To continue to extend and develop a range of extra curricular and whole school activities that will provide opportunities to develop social and cultural interests.

## **Objectives**

- To make explicit the schools aims and values in as many ways as possible.
- To actively involve everyone in the school community in putting them into practice, to give recognition to their achievements, and constantly work towards improvement.
- To ensure that opportunities are sought within the whole school curriculum to develop issues related to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural education of pupils (e.g. social issues in history; environmental in geography; reflection on feelings through the use of story, poetry, drama etc. in English; responding to music, art, dance etc.)
- To communicate the school's ethos and approach on a regular and consistent basis to staff, governors and parents/carers using newsletters, notices, meetings, assemblies and parent forums.
- To ensure that Religious Education (RE) is well planned and taught within the locally Agreed Syllabus in order that it may play a role in pupils' spiritual and moral development – through this, pupils may be taught issues related to an awareness of self, other people, environmental concerns, a global identity and an awareness of religious symbolism, faith and culture.
- To ensure that Collective Worship offers pupils the opportunities to explore and share beliefs and values, celebrate others' achievements and consider the importance of prayer, meditation and silence.
- To develop a well-planned and co-ordinated programme for Collective Worship based on the values of the school and aimed at the development of spiritual, moral and cultural development which will allow children to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.
- To continue to encourage and implement a planned programme of extra curricular/whole school

activities in order to develop the social and cultural needs of the pupils.

## **Guidance**

- Members of staff are able to consult curriculum leaders for specific guidance on the ways in which related issues may be addressed.
- The RE curriculum leaders may be consulted on the RE scheme of work and opportunities to develop spiritual and moral awareness.
- School policies (e.g. RE, Collective Worship, Behaviour) are available for consultation

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The school will evaluate the curriculum, resources and all aspects of school life to ensure that opportunities are provided for the spiritual and moral developments of its pupil. This will take place annually when evaluating the School Impact Plan.

The following areas may need to be considered for the evaluation:

- The ethos of the school and its core values.
- Collective worship.
- The religious background of the pupils in school.
- To continually monitor the involvement of pupils in extra curricular activities.
- The behaviour of both pupils and adults in school (adults as role models).
- Areas of the curriculum that specifically provide opportunities for spiritual and moral development.
- Strategies for answering pupils questions which have spiritual and moral development implications.
- The involvement of governors and parents/carers in these issues.
- Feedback from parents, community, visitors, Ofsted, etc.