

What is SMSC?

SMSC stands for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. All schools in England must show a commitment to promoting the following aspects:

Spiritual: Explore beliefs and experience; respect faiths, feelings and values; enjoy learning about oneself, others and the surrounding world; use imagination and creativity; reflect.

Moral: Recognise right and wrong; respect the law; understand consequences; investigate moral and ethical issues; offer reasoned views.

Social: Investigate and moral issues; appreciate diverse viewpoints; participate, volunteer and cooperate; resolve conflict; engage with the fundamental values of British democracy.

Cultural: Appreciate cultural influences; appreciate the role of Britain's parliamentary system, participate in culture opportunities; understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity.

According to the government: "SMSC is the training of good human beings, purposeful and wise; themselves with a vision of what it is to be human and the kind of society that makes that possible." Hansard, 2006.

What is St Mary's Primary Catholic School doing to achieve these expectations?

St Mary's Catholic Primary School expect high achievement and high standards, and these values are typified in our approach to Spiritual, Moral, Social, and Cultural (SMSC) development. We firmly believe in a holistic education, experience and curriculum which ensures that 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 have the ability to access the world they live in. We therefore aim to provide an education that provides children with opportunities to explore and develop their own values, whilst recognising that those 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, as well as the ability to identify and deal with **extremism** are all critical

skills and dispositions that we nurture, encourage and develop through our subject and wider curriculum

All curriculum areas have a contribution to our student's Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development, and opportunities for this will be 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.

Coverage of the SMSC and Citizenship standards are supplemented by a variety of other activities. These include interventions, trips, visitors, and compact-days. See SMSC calendar.