

# THE WESTGATE SCHOOL

Hampshire's First 4-16 'All Through' School

*"The Westgate School is a community of learners where partnerships inspire success for all:  
learning together – achieving excellence"*

Headteacher: Mrs F A Dean, MA (Ed)

Initial Policy date		Next scheduled review	November 2024
Governor approved	November 2023	Key person/people	DHT (ethos) SDHT/Head of Primary Phase
Model Policy		Model localised	Yes
Pupil leadership team review	Yes	Rotherly Day Nursery variations in policy	Yes / No

## SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

### **Principles:**

Westgate School uses the following definitions of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural:

### **Spiritual**

Beliefs, religious or otherwise, which inform pupils' perspectives on life and their interest in and respect of, different people's feelings and values. A sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them.

### **Moral**

Ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong and the pupil's readiness to apply this understanding to their own lives. An ability to understand the consequence of actions and an interest in investigating and offering reasoned views about moral and ethical issues. An age-appropriate understanding of the civil and criminal law in England.

### **Social**

The ability to use a range of social skills in different contexts, including working and socialising with pupils from different religious, ethnic and socio economic backgrounds. A willingness to participate in a variety of social settings, co- operating with others and being able to resolve conflict effectively. An understanding of the fundamental British Values - Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual liberty, Mutual respect and Tolerance of different faiths (as defined by the DFE in the Nov 2014 publication "Promoting fundamental British Values as part of SMSC in maintained schools") and an awareness of how they can make a positive contribution to life in modern Britain.

### **Cultural**

Understanding and having an appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their heritage. Interest in exploring, understanding of and respect for, cultural diversity and the extent to which they understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity, as shown by their attitudes towards different religious, ethnic and socioeconomic groups in the local, national and global communities.

### **At The Westgate School:**

Our specified and the wider curriculum is designed to support pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, helping them to become proactive citizens knowing and understanding the United Nations Charter for the Rights of the Child & British Values including democracy, justice and equality and enabling them to effectively contribute to a modern, rapidly changing multicultural society. They will need to respond to difficult problems and controversial issues, making informed decisions. We aim to support pupils' knowledge and appreciation of individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance; to be tolerant and understanding of those with different faiths and beliefs and, for those without specified faith. We aim to enable young people to be able to respond to difficult problems and controversial issues, making informed decisions with the context of British Values. We encourage respect and acceptance of different sexuality and gender.

We take seriously our role with parents and carers to prepare young people to lead confident, healthy, safe and independent lives through our specified and wider curriculum. RE is taught as a discrete subject in Key Stage 1, 2 and 3 and as a GCSE option at KS4. In Key Stage 4 pupils also engage with the some of the big questions in RE through visiting speakers, as part of their Personal Development core provision and through tutor time in Year 11.

Personal Development is also taught as a discrete subject in the Primary Phase and Years 7 and 10. There is a comprehensive class/tutor programme in all Year groups. The National Curriculum core subjects help prepare young people for becoming responsible, reflective, positive British citizens. These topics are introduced at an age-appropriate time for pupils to be able to understand and benefit positively

### **Practice:**

- We provide a coherent assembly programme which enables all four aspects to be delivered at different and appropriate times.
- We provide a comprehensive Personal Development programme which is delivered by tutors and class teachers. This covers all four aspects. It is regularly evaluated by tutors, pupils and the Personal Development lead to ensure that it is fit for purpose.
- RE is taught using the approved Hampshire syllabus for RE as well as including an emphasis on British Values and the equalities as stipulated in the Equality Act 2010.
- All subject areas contribute to further develop pupils' SMSC skills through their curricula and this is audited annually.
- We promote active citizenship through our extensive pupil leadership opportunities.
- We provide an extensive enrichment programme which all our pupils can access, and these provide opportunities to celebrate and further enhance our pupils SMSC understanding.
- Key Stage 1 and 2 meet for Collective Worship four times a week and in their class once a week. Year R hold class and then year group assemblies as they progress during the year.
- The Head of Primary Phase leads an assembly weekly in the Primary Phase with other Primary teachers contributing regularly.
- Secondary and Primary pupils are encouraged to contribute to Primary assemblies.
- We provide a variety of assemblies including pupil and guest led assemblies.
- There are weekly tutor time resources called 'Stories worth sharing' in the Secondary phase that always have a link to the British Values, Protected Characteristics and UN Rights of a child.

We develop an awareness of environmental issues and the need for sustainability.

### **Monitoring and implementation of the policy:**

- Provision for SMSC is monitored and reviewed by the Personal Development lead, SLT, Governors, Faculty Leaders and the Pupil Leadership Team.
- The SMSC audit of provision is updated every two years and it includes a programme of teaching pupils about wellbeing.

### **Rotherly Day Nursery variations included**

Children are introduced to Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education through a variety of activities both during group time as well as child initiated learning time. These activities include stories, celebration of different festivals, sharing different family traditions and day to day interactions underpinned by the British Values. The Aspiration “To recognise and celebrate others’ differences and similarities” supports children to learn and understand more about other cultures, faiths and religions.