

# Rishton Methodist Primary School

## SMSC Policy 2023 - 24



### Our Christian Vision

As a Methodist school, our values lie at the heart of all we are and do. Within our caring Christian community, where all are welcome, everyone is encouraged to be the best that they can possibly be. We promote respect, compassion and resilience to prepare our children for the challenges of an ever-changing world and encourage our whole school community to 'Rise up...take courage and do it" (Ezra 10:4).

## **Aims**

At Rishton Methodist Primary School, it is our aim to promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our pupils within a caring and supportive environment and community. We want all of our children to be confident learners and responsible citizens, so we recognise the importance of both academic and personal development and the well-being of every child.

There are four main elements to this policy, and we aim to promote development of these areas in all aspects of school life.

## **Spiritual**

*As a school we aim to provide opportunities that will enable pupils to:*

- be reflective about their own beliefs (religious or otherwise) and perspective on life
- have a knowledge of, and respect for, different people's faiths, feelings and values
- have sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them
- use imagination and creativity in their learning
- have a willingness to reflect on their experiences
- form and maintain positive relationships
- feel safe and comfortable to express and share their feelings

## **Moral**

*As a school we aim to provide opportunities that will enable pupils to:*

- recognise the difference between right and wrong and to readily apply this understanding in their own lives
- understand the consequences of their behaviour and actions
- be interested in investigating and offering reasoned views about moral and ethical issues
- develop an ability to understand and appreciate the viewpoints of others on different issues
- recognise the unique value of every individual
- show respect for the environment and the world around us
- build personal resilience and persevere through challenges that we may face

## **Social**

*As a school we aim to provide opportunities that will enable pupils to:*

- use of a range of social skills
- be willing to participate in a variety of communities and social settings
- accept and engage with the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs
- develop and understand their role in wider society
- build positive relationships with adults and peers

## **Cultural**

*As a school we aim to provide opportunities that will enable pupils to:*

- recognise the value and richness of cultural diversity in Britain and how these influence individuals and society

- understand and appreciate the range of different cultures in school and the local community
- recognise, and value, the things we share in common across cultural, religious, ethnic and socio-economic communities
- be willing to participate in and respond positively to artistic, musical, sporting and cultural opportunities
- show an interest in exploring, improving understanding of and showing respect for different faiths and cultural diversity

### **Guidelines**

All curriculum areas have a contribution to make to the child's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and opportunities for this will be planned in each area of the curriculum.

All adults will model and promote expected behaviour, treating all people as unique and valuable individuals and showing respect for pupils and their families.

The school community will be a place where pupils can find acceptance for themselves as unique individuals and where courage and perseverance is fundamental to the ethos of the school.

Pupils should learn to differentiate between right and wrong in as far as their actions affect other people. They will be encouraged to value themselves and others.

Pupils should understand the need for expectations and the need to abide by these expectations for the good of everyone. School and classroom expectations should reflect, reiterate, promote and reward acceptable behaviour and provide opportunities to celebrate pupils' work and achievements.

At Rishton Methodist Primary School, our moral code is underpinned by belief in;

- Our Christian Values
- Persevering and having the courage to try our best
- Telling the truth
- Respecting the rights of others
- Being considerate to one another
- Accepting responsibility for our choices and actions

### **Teaching and Organisation**

Development in SMSC will take place across all curriculum areas, within activities that encourage pupils to recognise the spiritual dimension of their learning, reflect on the significance of what they are learning, and to recognise any challenges that there may be to their own attitude and lifestyle.

*Class discussions will give pupils opportunities to:*

- Talk about personal experiences and feelings.
- Express and clarify their own ideas and beliefs.
- Speak about difficult events, e.g. bullying, death etc.
- Share thoughts and feelings with other people.
- Explore relationships with friends/family/others.
- Consider the needs and behaviours of others.
- Show empathy.
- Develop self-esteem and a respect for others.
- Develop a sense of belonging.

- Develop the skills and attitudes that enable pupils to develop socially, morally, spiritually and culturally – e.g. empathy, respect, open mindedness, sensitivity, critical awareness.

Many curriculum areas provide opportunities to:

- Listen and talk to each other.
- Learn an awareness of treating all as equals and accepting people who are physically or mentally different.
- Agree and disagree.
- Take turns and share equipment.
- Work co-operatively and collaboratively.

### **Development of SMSC**

To ensure that SMSC is developed in school, we will continually consider these aspects;

- The ethos of the school which creates a safe and happy environment for the children where Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural development can flourish.
- Pastoral support for children where the care and concern of the children is at the heart of what we do
- The curriculum which sets out to provide opportunities to explore the elements of SMSC when appropriate.

Signature from Governors:	Date: 13 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
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Signature of Head teacher:	Date: 13 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
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Date of next review:	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2024
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