
**Totley All Saints
Church of England Primary School**

**Spiritual, Moral,
Social & Cultural
Development
Policy**



Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development Policy



At Totley All Saints, the promotion of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural education is at the heart of what we do and, as such, is everyone's responsibility. Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development is promoted not only through all the subjects of the curriculum, but also through the ethos and culture of the school and the development of positive attitudes and values. This policy supports and reinforces the aims of our school, valuing all children and staff equally and as individuals.

Principles:

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development is crucial for individual pupils and is crucial for society as a whole. We believe it is the heart of education and allows children to grow and develop as people and effective participants and citizens in modern Britain.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development is cross curricular and promotes the aims and principles of the policies for RE, PSHCE, Drugs, Sex and Relationships Education, Race Equality, Disability and Equal Opportunities. These policies underpin the Curriculum model as putting the child at the centre of all we do.

It is an expectation at TASS that all subjects, can and should, make a contribution to the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development of pupils through the curriculum and through the use of appropriate teaching and learning strategies, e.g. discussion, reflection, pupil participation and circle time, etc.

The importance of relationships between all school staff, parents and governors is crucial. These relationships are characterised by mutual respect, positive attitudes, by the willingness to listen and be listened to, and by the valuing of all pupils.

Spiritual Development:

As a church school, we believe that we offer a spiritual and moral basis for the development of human wholeness and a sure foundation for personal and social values based on the person and ministry of Christ. As such, Spiritual Development incorporates feelings, emotions, attitudes and beliefs. As an inclusive school for all children with different or no beliefs, we believe that spiritual development also leads us towards the understanding of self and others.

Pupils' spiritual development is shown by their:

- beliefs, religious or otherwise, which inform spiritual development;
- perspective on life and their interest in and respect for different people's feelings and values;

- sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them, including the intangible;
- use of imagination and creativity in their learning;
- willingness to reflect on their experiences.

Aims for Spiritual Development:

- The ability to listen and be still;
- The ability to reflect;
- The ability to sense wonder and mystery in the world;
- The ability to sense the special nature of human relationships;

Objectives for Spiritual Development:

- To develop the skill of being physically still, yet alert;
- To develop the skill to use all ones senses;
- To develop imagination;
- To encourage times for quiet reflection throughout the school day;
- To develop individual self confidence.

Moral Development:

Pupils are encouraged to understand the need for a common code and to follow it from conviction rather than because of sanctions or consequences. At Totley All Saints, we work towards an understanding of what is right and wrong. From this basis, pupils are encouraged to develop the ability to make judgements and to become increasingly responsible for their own actions and behaviour.

Aims for Moral Development:

- To understand the principles lying behind decisions and actions;
- To be able to distinguish between right and wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law in England;
- To be able to make decisions, accepting and understanding consequences of their actions;
- To move gradually through a 'taught morality' to taking responsibility for their own moral decisions.

Objectives for Moral Development:

- To tell the truth;
- To respect the rights and property of others;
- To help others less fortunate than themselves;
- To be considerate to others;
- To take responsibility of own actions;
- To exercise self discipline;
- To develop high expectations and a positive attitude;

- To conform to rules and regulations;
To promote order for the good of all.

Social Development:

We believe that such moral development enables pupils to become conscientious participants in their family, class, wider school, plus the local and wider community. It also enables children to make a positive contribution to the lives of others in our multi-racial, multi-cultural society. We also promote how there should be a balance of the positive, satisfying elements of belonging to a group or society along with the demands, obligations and cooperation that such membership requires.

Aims for Social Development:

- To relate positively to others;
- To participate fully and take responsibility in class and school;
- To use appropriate behaviour across a range of situations;
- To work cooperatively with others;
- To use own initiative responsibly;
- To understand our place in our family, school and society;
- To encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.

Objectives for Social Development:

- To share emotions such as love, joy, hope, anguish and fear;
- To be sensitive to the needs and feelings of others;
- To work as part of a group;
- To interact positively across a range of situations, e.g. clubs, sports activities, visits, church services, music festivals, etc.
- To develop an understanding of citizenship and to experience being a part of a caring community;
- To show care and consideration for others, e.g. sharing and turn taking;
- To realise that every individual can do something well and have something to offer.

Cultural Development:

At the heart of cultural development lies the necessity to develop a sense of personal identity, whilst at the same time acquiring awareness, understanding and tolerance regarding the cultural traditions and beliefs of others.

Aims for Cultural Development:

- To develop a sense of belonging to pupils' own culture and being proud of their cultural background;
- To challenge opinions or behaviours in school that are contrary to British values;

- To respond to cultural events;
- To share different cultural experiences;
- To respect different cultural traditions;
- To understand codes of behaviour, fitting to cultural tradition;
- To develop a balanced approach to retaining the traditions of our Christian society, whilst perceiving in a positive light the contribution of other cultures, past and present.

Objectives for Cultural Development:

- To enable pupils to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England;
- To develop an awareness, recognition and appreciation of the Arts, i.e. Music, Art, Drama, Literature, etc.
- To develop a love for learning;
- To develop an understanding of different cultures and beliefs;
- To appreciate the values and customs of other ethnic and faith groups which make up modern British society, and the world beyond;
- To develop the ability to value these independently.

General Aims for Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development:

We aim:

- To promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and in society;
- To prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life;
- To enable pupils to distinguish right from wrong, to respect the civil and criminal law of England and to appreciate the rule of law is essential for well-being and safety;
- To enable pupils to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England;
- To respect and support participation in the democratic process;
- To promote respect and consideration for differences in gender, race and religion;
- To help each pupil achieve their full potential across all areas of the curriculum;
- To develop the individual strengths of all pupils and to help and provide support in their areas for development;
- To inspire and stimulate pupils in order to foster a love of learning and enquiry, to reason rationally and to apply themselves to tasks and physical skills;
- To help our pupils towards independent learning and to equip them with life skills in order for them to take their place in a fast and changing society;
- To ensure there is continuity and progression in skills, knowledge and understanding in all areas of the curriculum;
- To develop respect for religious and moral values and understanding of other races, religions and ways of life whilst challenging opinions or behaviours in school that are contrary to British values;
- To help the pupils understand the world in which they live;
- To develop a sense of responsibility, consideration for others, self respect and self confidence;

- To promote good relationships between home, school and the local and wider communities.

Assessment:

Informal assessment is primarily through observation of pupil behaviour, the views that pupils express, and through discussion amongst staff.