

Pirbright Village Primary School



Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC)

Reviewed	Annually
Next Review Date	Summer 2027

Vision

"Children must be taught how to think, not what to think." – Margaret Mead

At Pirbright Village Primary School, we believe that children learn best when they feel safe, valued and inspired. Our commitment to Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development ensures that every child is known as an individual, celebrated for their uniqueness and empowered to become a thoughtful, respectful and active member of society. SMSC is not an isolated aspect of our provision; it is the thread that weaves through our curriculum, our relationships and the wider life of our school community.

At Pirbright Village Primary School, we are committed to nurturing every child to become a successful, confident, enthusiastic and aspirational learner and citizen. We believe that education extends far beyond academic achievement and that children flourish when they are given opportunities to develop spiritually, morally, socially and culturally alongside their intellectual growth.

SMSC is a golden thread that runs through every aspect of school life. It underpins our curriculum, our relationships, our values and the experiences we provide, ensuring that every child leaves Pirbright with the knowledge, skills and character needed to contribute positively to modern Britain and the wider world. Our SMSC provision reflects our commitment to inclusion, wellbeing, equality and opportunity, enabling children to understand themselves, appreciate others and develop a lifelong love of learning and curiosity about the world around them.

Aims

Through our SMSC provision we aim to:

- develop confident, compassionate and responsible citizens;
- promote resilience, independence and self-awareness;
- encourage children to reflect upon their beliefs and values whilst respecting those of others;
- foster curiosity, creativity and a sense of awe and wonder;
- develop moral responsibility and ethical decision making;
- encourage positive relationships and effective social interaction;
- celebrate diversity and promote inclusion;
- prepare pupils for life in modern Britain through the promotion of British Values;
- provide rich experiences that broaden children's understanding of the local, national and global community.

Statutory Context

The Education Act 2002 requires schools to promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils. Ofsted recognises SMSC development as a fundamental element of personal development and as an essential component in preparing children for future success and responsible citizenship.

At Pirbright Village Primary School, SMSC is embedded throughout our curriculum, wider opportunities and daily interactions rather than taught as a discrete subject.

Spiritual Development

We encourage children to develop a sense of curiosity, reflection and appreciation for themselves and the wider world.

Children are supported to:

- reflect upon their beliefs and experiences;
- respect different faiths and values;
- develop imagination and creativity;
- experience awe and wonder through learning;

- appreciate the beauty and diversity of the world around them.

This is promoted through:

- our values curriculum;
- Religious Education;
- PSHE;
- collective worship;
- 5 Minute Wonders;
- visits to places of worship;
- wellbeing assemblies;
- diversity and British Values assemblies;
- creative curriculum opportunities;
- home learning choices that encourage imagination and independence.

Moral Development

We help children develop a strong understanding of right and wrong and the confidence to make positive choices.

Children learn to:

- understand consequences;
- recognise fairness and justice;
- respect the law;
- discuss moral and ethical issues thoughtfully;
- understand different viewpoints;
- take responsibility for their actions.

This is developed through:

- restorative approaches;
- the 3Rs (Regulate, Relate, Reason);
- Zones of Regulation;
- behaviour expectations;
- PSHE;
- Religious Education;
- 5 Minute Wonders;
- School Council;
- classroom agreements;
- British Values education.

Social Development

We provide opportunities for children to develop positive relationships and contribute meaningfully to their communities.

Children learn to:

- cooperate with others;
- resolve conflict respectfully;
- take responsibility;
- develop leadership skills;
- understand democracy and participation;
- contribute positively to society.

Our provision includes:

- leadership roles across school;
- School Council;
- Kindness Ambassadors;
- 5 Minute Wonders;
- Eco Team;
- lunchtime clubs;

- performances and productions;
- Learning Champions
- fundraising events;
- community engagement projects;
- residential visits;
- sporting opportunities;
- enterprise projects.

Cultural Development

We celebrate diversity and encourage children to appreciate the richness of different cultures, traditions and beliefs.

Children develop:

- understanding of Britain's diverse society;
- appreciation of different religions and cultures;
- respect for equality and diversity;
- participation in artistic, musical and sporting opportunities;
- understanding of democracy and modern Britain.

This is promoted through:

- diversity assemblies;
- British Values;
- music and arts;
- 5 Minute Wonders;
- sporting events;
- visits and visitors;
- Religious Education;
- cultural celebrations;
- links with the local community;
- opportunities to experience traditions beyond their own.

British Values

British Values are explicitly taught and implicitly woven throughout school life.

Children develop understanding of:

- Democracy
- Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs

These values are embedded through assemblies, curriculum planning, pupil leadership opportunities, behaviour expectations and daily interactions.

Inclusion and Equality

Pirbright Village Primary School is committed to ensuring that every child feels known, valued and included.

Our SMSC provision actively promotes equality of opportunity, celebrates diversity and challenges discrimination. Through our curriculum and wider experiences, children develop empathy, understanding and respect for others regardless of background, belief, culture or ability.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Senior Leadership Team oversees the strategic development of SMSC across the school. Subject leaders contribute through curriculum design and enrichment opportunities, while all staff recognise their responsibility for promoting SMSC through teaching, relationships, behaviour expectations and everyday interactions.

Governors monitor the effectiveness of the school's provision through policy review, curriculum monitoring and school improvement processes.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The effectiveness of SMSC provision is monitored through:

- curriculum monitoring;
- learning walks;
- pupil voice;
- planning scrutiny;
- assembly evaluations;
- behaviour and wellbeing information;
- leadership monitoring;
- governor oversight.

SMSC is continually reviewed to ensure it remains responsive to the needs of our children and reflects our ambition to provide a rich, inclusive and inspiring education for every pupil.

How SMSC is Embedded at Pirbright

Through our Curriculum – *some examples*

- High-quality English texts exploring themes and values
- History and Geography encouraging understanding of society and cultures
- RE developing knowledge of world faiths and beliefs
- PSHE and Relationships Education promoting wellbeing and respect
- Science encouraging curiosity and wonder
- Art, Music and DT celebrating creativity and expression

Through Collective Worship and Assemblies

- Whole-school values assemblies
- Wellbeing themes
- British Values
- Diversity and inclusion
- Current affairs
- Celebration assemblies recognising character and achievement
- 5 Minute Wonders

Through Personal Development

- School Council
- Eco Team
- House Captains and Pupil Leaders
- Playground Leaders
- Charity fundraising
- Community events
- Residential visits
- Educational visits
- Visitors into school
- 5 Minute Wonders

Through Behaviour and Wellbeing

- The 3Rs (Regulate, Relate, Reason)
- Positive relationships
- Restorative conversations
- Zones of Regulation

- Safeguarding
- Anti-bullying work

Our School Values at the Heart of SMSC

At Pirbright Village Primary School, our values underpin every aspect of school life and provide the foundation for our pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Trust

We encourage children to build positive relationships through honesty, reliability and integrity. Children learn to trust themselves, trust others and contribute positively to a safe and supportive community.

Resilience

We teach children that mistakes are opportunities for growth and that perseverance leads to success. Through challenge, reflection and encouragement, pupils develop the confidence to overcome setbacks and embrace new opportunities.

Respect

Children learn to value themselves, others and the world around them. They develop an understanding of fairness, equality and diversity, recognising that everyone deserves kindness, dignity and acceptance regardless of their background or beliefs.

Pride

We encourage every child to take pride in their achievements, their behaviour, their learning and their school community. Pupils are inspired to strive for excellence, celebrate success and contribute positively to the reputation of Pirbright Village Primary School.

Nurture

We believe children flourish when they feel safe, valued and understood. Through nurturing relationships and a culture of care, pupils develop empathy, compassion and emotional wellbeing, enabling them to support themselves and others.

Living Our Values Every Day

Our values are embedded through:

- Our ambitious curriculum and learning experiences
- Assemblies and collective worship
- PSHE and Relationships Education
- Religious Education
- Behaviour expectations and restorative approaches
- Pupil leadership opportunities
- Educational visits and visitors
- Community engagement and charity work
- Sports, music, art and performance opportunities
- Daily interactions between pupils, staff and families

Together, these experiences ensure that SMSC development is not confined to a single lesson but is woven throughout the life of the school, helping every child to become a compassionate, resilient and responsible citizen who is ready to thrive in modern Britain and beyond.

The Impact

Children leave Pirbright as:

- Confident communicators
- Independent learners
- Compassionate friends
- Respectful citizens
- Curious thinkers
- Resilient problem-solvers

- Active members of their community
- Young people who are ready for the next stage of education and life in modern Britain.