

**The Meadows Montessori Primary School**

**Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Policy**

**Statement**

Although The Meadows Montessori Primary School is not a 'faith based' school, we will promote a Christian ethos while recognising that not all of its members will be practicing Christians.

We believe that the personal development of pupil's, spiritual, morally, socially and culturally, play a significant part in their ability to learn and achieve.

We therefore aim to provide an education that provides pupils with opportunities to explore and develop their own values and beliefs, spiritual awareness, high standards of personal behaviours, 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.

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.

The integrity and spirituality of pupils from other faiths backgrounds will be respected and explored. The diversity of spiritual traditions will be recognised and pupils will be given access to alternative views.

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

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

All curriculum areas should seek to use illustrations and examples drawn from as wide a range of cultural contexts as possible. This will be reflected in staff planning.

## General Aims

- To ensure that everyone connected with the school is aware of our values and principles
- To ensure a consistent approach to the delivery of SMSC issues through the curriculum and the general life of the school
- To ensure that a pupil's education is set within a context that is meaningful and appropriate to their age, aptitude and background.
- To ensure that pupils know what is expected of them and why.
- To give each pupil a range of opportunities to reflect upon and discuss their beliefs, feelings and responses to personal experience.
- To enable pupils to develop an understanding of their individual and group identity
- To enable pupils to begin to develop an understanding of their social and cultural environment and an appreciation of the many cultures that now enrich our society.
- To give each pupil the opportunity to explore social and moral issues, and develop a sense of social and moral responsibility.

## Teaching and Organisation

Development in Spiritual, moral, social and cultural 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. Our curriculum is broad and varied, offering many different ways to experience and to learn. Our themes are taught as an integrated creative curriculum with many varied materials on the shelf to support this learning.

All festivals and celebrations are recognised and opportunities are given for finding out more about them.

All curriculum areas should seek illustrations and examples drawn from as wide a range of cultural contexts as possible.

Through class discussions and circle times the pupils will be given 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 / families / others
- Consider others needs and behaviour
- 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.

Many Curriculum areas provide opportunities to:

- Listen and talk to each other

- Learn an awareness of treating all as equals
- Agree and disagree
- Take turns and share
- Work co operatively and collaboratively.

### **Links with the wider Community**

Visitors are always welcomed into our school

The development of a strong home-school link is regarded as very important, enabling parents and teachers to work in an effective partnership to support the pupil.

Pupils will be taught to appreciate their local environment and to develop a sense of responsibility to it.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Provision for SMSC will be monitored and reviewed on a regular basis by:

- Evaluating lesson plans and monitoring future planning.
- Monitoring resource provision
- The Head Teacher will have oversight to this policy and monitor the provision of SMSC.

Signed:

Date: