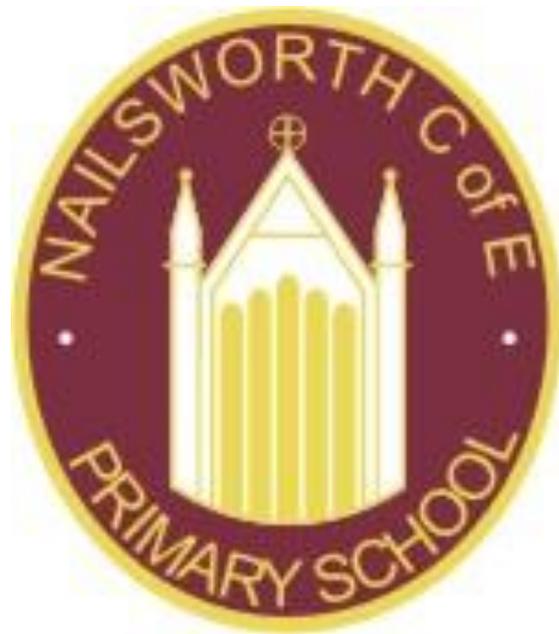


Policy Statement for

SMSC



Change History	Summary of Key Changes
May 2016	Updated to new format
Nov 2018	Updated in line with Understanding Christianity and SIAMS new framework

At Nailsworth C of E Primary School our SMSC policy is informed by our school Biblical verse below.

John 10:10 I have come that you might have life: life in all its fullness.

There are 4 different elements to our vision of SMSC

Wisdom

Hope

Community

Dignity

We believe passionately in “educating the whole person” by giving our pupils access to a curriculum which is broad, balance and rich.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT IN A CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

Nailsworth C of E Primary School’s Christian perspective on spiritual development

At **Nailsworth C of E Primary School** children’s spirituality is encouraged to develop and flourish through

- trust in a God who loves them,
- trust that school is a safe place where their doubts, fears and questions will be listened to.
- Courage to face life’s challenges
- Courage to embrace life in all it’s fullness.

In Collective Worship, children are given the opportunity to praise God for the wonders of the world, to give thanks and to learn about and celebrate the shared Christian values which unite them as a school family. We use gospel stories and other Biblical teaching as the root of the Christian values in the life of **Nailsworth C of E Primary School**,

We offer the opportunity for spiritual development in all pupils and adults and we therefore support spiritual growth in a variety of ways. Spiritual capacities such as imagination, empathy, and insight are modelled in different ways by staff and also encouraged and celebrated in children. We actively build in to our curriculum time for prayer, worship, reflection and stillness. Initiatives in school this year have focussed on reflection.

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Pupils' spiritual development is shown by their:

- ability to be reflective about their own beliefs, religious or otherwise, that inform their perspective on life and their interest in and respect for different people's faiths, feelings and values
- sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them
- use of imagination and creativity in their learning
- willingness to reflect on their experiences inside and outside school.

Aims

In order to foster spiritual development, Nailsworth C of E Primary School aims to provide children with opportunities to:

- develop an appreciation of their uniqueness and value as a child made in the image of God;
- develop an understanding of the distinctive ethos of this church school as well as the context, language and symbolism of the Christian faith;
- develop knowledge and understanding of the school's core Christian values and the Biblical teaching that underpins them;
- develop an appreciation of what it means to be a part of a community (eg using their gifts and abilities in the service of others);
- develop the skills and language required to enable them to reflect upon the big questions and mysteries of life;
- develop an awareness that experiences of disappointment, failure and loss may be occasions for spiritual growth;
- understand the value of difference and diversity through involvement with others.

Teaching and Learning

Through teaching and learning, the school pursues these aims by ensuring:

- the curriculum and all areas of our community life is rooted in Christian values
- opportunities for spiritual development are planned into the curriculum and encouraged in all areas of school life;
- Collective Worship celebrates the love of God for every individual and provides opportunities for children to respond to this;
- the school building provides appropriate spaces for silence, stillness and prayer. Each class has a reflection area containing interactive Prayer stations. School corridor displays contain Bible quotes to stimulate thinking: key areas have Bible story posters that link to the values.
- There is a central reflection area, where children are encouraged to consider some of the "big" questions in "Understanding Christianity".
- Children's spiritual capacities such as imagination, empathy and insight are fostered through the creative arts and interactive multi-sensory teaching strategies;
- Children's moral development will be linked to spiritual development through Windows, Mirrors and Doors;

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- The RE curriculum delivers knowledge and understanding about a range of faith perspectives relating to spirituality;
- Children are given many opportunities to explore the wonder of the natural world and to develop an understanding of the Christian belief that creation is a gift from God to be enjoyed, cherished and protected.

MORAL DEVELOPMENT IN A CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.

Be devoted to one another in love.

Honour one another above yourselves. Romans 12:9-10

And what does the Lord require of you?

To act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

A Christian perspective on moral development

For children at Nailsworth C of E Primary School, morality is not just about good behaviour, it is about shared values rooted the Christian beliefs of dignity and respect. Forgiveness is a central value in moral development. It forms a key part of our Behaviour policy.

However, forgiveness does not mean accepting the wrong-doing or ignoring the consequences. Justice (a value focused on in Spring I) is a fundamental value. The need for restorative justice or making amends is also important. Honesty and truthfulness are key values that underpin our policies and practice.

Pupils' moral development is shown by their:

- ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong readily apply this understanding in their own lives and, in doing so, respect the civil and criminal law of England;
- understanding the consequences of their behaviour and actions;
- interest in investigating and offering reasoned views about moral and ethical issues, and being able to understand appreciate the viewpoints of others on these issues.

Aims

To foster moral development, Nailsworth C of E Primary School aims to provide children with opportunities to:

- recognise the difference between right and wrong and understand how Christian values inform a particular perspective on moral choices;

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- understand how our moral choices can affect the lives of others;
- be able to work together to agree codes of behaviour that are appropriate for our school community;
- understand the centrality of forgiveness and reconciliation in the life and culture of our school;
- begin to engage with big questions concerning morality and ethical issues in the wider community and in the world, and to realise that each of us has a responsibility to work for justice.

Teaching and Learning

Through teaching and learning, Nailsworth C of E Primary School pursues these aims by ensuring that:

- the curriculum and all areas of our community life are explicitly rooted in Christian values, such as justice, service, perseverance, courage and truthfulness, as documented in all school policies;
- opportunities for moral development will be pro-actively planned into the curriculum and actively encouraged in all areas of school life;
- our Christian values are shared and lived out by members of our school community through our website and school documentation as well as through colourful images; posters, classroom displays and exhibitions around the school building;
- Collective worship celebrates Christian values lived out in the life of the school, local, and wider community with Values Doves and 'Star of the Week' Awards.
- Our behaviour policy makes clear that every child is treated fairly and is always offered the opportunity for a fresh start;
- Parents and carers are made aware, through our website and other documentation, of our school's expectations regarding behaviour, as well as the rewards and sanctions that we operate;
- Children gain skills in conflict resolution through problem solving strategies;
- Children are made aware of moral and ethical issues in the national and international context
- Our School Council is fully involved, alongside teachers, senior leaders and governors in reviewing the impact of our Christian values on the behaviour, culture and ethos of our school.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN A CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body.

So it is with the body of Christ. 1 Corinthians 12:12

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A Christian perspective on social development

For the community of Nailsworth C of E Primary School, relationships underpin life. Our school aims to be a hospitable community embodying an ethos of living well together. The Trinity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) models a perfect community of equals, united by a bond of love.

Although some members of Nailsworth C of E Primary School may not be part of the local church community, there is an expectation that all relationships are informed by Christian values. These values are modelled by staff and governors and encouraged and celebrated in children. The Bible stories that underpin our school values are explored and creatively expressed and are now familiar and inspirational to all.

Pupils' social development is shown by their:

- use of a range of social skills in different contexts, including working and socialising with pupils from different religious, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds
- eagerness to participate in a variety of communities and social settings, including by volunteering, cooperating well with others and being able to resolve conflicts effectively
- engagement 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; the pupils develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.
- An appreciation of the natural world and God's creation as well as the ecological challenges modern life presents.

Aims

To foster social development and the centrality of relationships, Nailsworth C of E Primary School aims to provide opportunities for children to:

- build relationships founded upon the Christian values ;
- have a clear understanding of hospitality and community at our school and within the wider Christian community including local, national and worldwide;
- access pastoral support from school staff, local clergy and parish team members;
- become equipped to become responsible citizens who recognise the importance of service and working and living well within families and community;
- feel a sense of genuine pride in the school and their membership of it.

Teaching and Learning

Through teaching and learning, we pursue these aims by ensuring:

- the curriculum and all areas of our community life will be explicitly rooted in Christian values, such as friendship, service, generosity and compassion, as documented in all school policies;
- opportunities for social development, hospitality and community will be explicitly planned into the curriculum and in all areas of school life;
- Collective Worship celebrates and rewards practical demonstrations of our Christian values such as, service to the community, and acts of friendship and

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generosity, particularly shown towards children facing difficulties or challenges through Values Doves and “Stars of the week” Awards.

- strong mutually supportive links will be maintained and developed with our local community through participation in charity events, acts of service, interaction and co-operation.
- strong, mutually supportive links are maintained and developed with the local and national churches and the worldwide Anglican communion through regular worship in St Georges church and church members supporting the school through Psalms, Mentoring, Experience Journeys, Cathedral Leavers’ Service, etc.
- Nailsworth C of E Primary School community strives to be fully inclusive;
- our School Council is trained and supported to play an active part with staff and governors in monitoring and evaluating the social cohesiveness of the school community and the school within the community;
- the Senior Leadership Team prioritises support and engagement with networks such as cluster meetings, school partnerships and attending conferences run by the Diocese;
- there is active engagement with parents and carers through the ‘open door policy’ and active support of PTFA activities.

CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN A CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no-one could count, from every nation, tribe, people, and language, standing before the throne. Revelation 7: 9a

The cultural development of the community at Nailsworth C of E Primary School is underpinned by the respect for the value of each person and the principle of human dignity.

Pupils’ cultural development is shown by their:

- understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage and that of others
- understanding and appreciation of the range of different cultures within school and further afield as an essential element of preparation for life in modern Britain
- knowledge of Britain’s democratic parliamentary system and its central role in shaping our history and values, and in continuing to develop Britain
- willingness to participate in and respond positively to artistic, sporting and cultural opportunities;
- interest in exploring, understanding and showing 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 socio-economic groups in the local, national and global communities.

Aims

To foster social development, the Nailsworth C of E Primary School aims to provide children with opportunities to:

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- gain a knowledge and understanding of the values from their own culture, heritage, traditions and an appreciation of how they have evolved and developed over time
- develop knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the cultures of those with whom they interact day by day, as well as other cultures represented in the UK
- develop a deep knowledge of the local Christian heritage, particularly through “Experience Church” and visits to local churches and the Cathedral.
- develop a knowledge and understanding of the cultural diversity of Christianity through links overseas, RE, Collective Worship and events in school
- understand the relationship between religious belief and culture through a creative, challenging and interactive RE curriculum
- explore what it means to be a child made in the image of a Creator God
- understand what it means to be part of a community characterised by openness, hospitality and an eagerness to learn from one another

Teaching and Learning

Through teaching and learning, we aim pursue our aims by ensuring:

- the curriculum and all areas of our community life will be explicitly rooted in Christian values, such as friendship, generosity and creativity, as documented in all school policies;
- the curriculum will be delivered using creative and imaginative teaching strategies which allow individual gifts and talents to flourish;
- a range of art forms will be used to teach children about Christian heritage and tradition, and also the heritages and traditions of other faiths;
- children are given opportunities to take part in and respond to cultural, political literary technical and artistic enterprises such as community art initiatives, as well as workshops with professional cooks chefs and sports people;
- children explore current affairs and different interpretations of events by the media;
- children explore the ways in which cultural, racial, and religious prejudice can take root and learn how to recognise this and other forms of discrimination as well as ways to counter it;
- whole school projects celebrate diversity within the local and wider community feature in our curriculum;
- links with our Diocese teach children that as a church school, we are a part of the World Wide Anglican Communion which comprises a rich cultural diversity of Christian traditions and practices.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF SMSC IN A CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

SMSC is the responsibility of **all** staff and governors, as it will have a fundamental impact on the quality and nature of the education offered by our school.

- The lead teacher with responsibility for evaluating the effectiveness of SMSC is Liz Geller;
- The SMSC lead teacher will ensure that our current policy is regularly reviewed, up to date, and a true reflection of practise in this school;

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- The SMSC lead teacher has responsibility for ensuring that all staff, parents and governors understand how the school interprets SMSC and to ensure that regular, appropriate professional development is provided;
- The SMSC lead teacher will liaise with the SLT, the Ethos Committee of the governing body and the School Council to monitor and evaluate the impact of opportunities for SMSC across the curriculum.

This will be achieved by:

- auditing curriculum policies and schemes of work to ensure that the school's values are the starting point for curriculum design;
- monitoring of lesson plans and the quality of teaching and learning;
- evaluating impact of SMSC provision through work scrutiny, reflection journals, and pupil conferencing;
- input at staff meetings, school governors' meetings and parents' forum to maintain the profile of SMSC in the school;
- sharing good practise from within our school with other schools where appropriate;
- ensuring that SMSC development is a priority on the school development plan.

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