



Leeds East
Primary Partnership
A CO-OPERATIVE TRUST

Cross Gates
Primary School

Policy and Procedure

Cross Gates Primary School

SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) Policy

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Definitions

- **Spiritual** development is the promotion of the elements of pupils which animate and sustain us. It is about the development of a sense of identity, belonging, self-worth, meaning and purpose and the ability to reflect.
- **Moral** development is about the creation, largely by pupils, of a framework of values which regulates pupils' behaviour, and about pupils' understanding of society's shared and agreed values. It is about acquiring an understanding of right and wrong, and being able to apply this understanding within and outside school. Moral development also includes pupils' appreciation that different people hold different views on subjects, and being able to articulate their own opinions.
- **Social** development is the pupils' ability to work effectively with each other in a school context, and participate constructively in the wider community. It concerns the acquisition of the skills and qualities necessary to live and work together. It includes developing an understanding of society's institutions and pupils' roles as citizens of the UK and the world.
- **Cultural** development is the celebration of pupils' understanding and appreciation of their own and others' cultures. It includes being able to live in a rapidly changing global culture, increasingly influenced by developments in travel, technological and communication, and being able to cope with the impact of such changes.

Aims

The aims of an SMSC education are:

- to ensure pupils' education at Cross Gates Primary School is holistic rather than focussed narrowly on purely academic aspects of learning.
- to provide pupils with a rounded education, including learning how to work and play together, understanding and respecting others' points of view, respecting and applying rules and understanding why these exist.
- to prepare pupils to contribute to society and culture throughout their lives, and enable them to participate actively and positively in the life of the school, their local community and wider society.
- to encourage pupils to value themselves and their unique contributions to their own and others' lives, and in turn to value and celebrate others and their qualities and abilities.

Delivery

SMSC is delivered through:

- The everyday teaching and learning that occur daily within the school day.
- The plethora of extra-curricular and non-class based opportunities, including whole school assemblies, an education at Cross Gates Primary provides for pupils.
- The school's established rules, procedures and behaviour management policies and strategies.

➤ Within lessons

SMSC skills and understanding are developed through:

- The RE curriculum which encourages pupils to explore **spiritual** thinking through their own and others' beliefs and values, and to develop an awe and wonder for the natural world.
- The Art curriculum which affords pupils the chance to explore **spiritualism** and reflect on their feelings and motivations, and respond visually to these.
- The English curriculum which gives pupils opportunities to consider **moral** codes and rules through units of work on, for examples, fables and other morality tales.
- The PSHE curriculum which promotes a **spiritual**, reflective approach to considering and celebrating difference and diversity between people.
- The Science curriculum which encompasses pupils' **spiritual** development in acquiring a wonder and awe in the natural world.
- The History curriculum which includes important aspects of pupils acquiring and appreciating the origins and reasons for contemporary **culture** and society.
- All curriculum subjects during group work and peer assessment when **social** skills are used and developed.

➤ Outside lessons

Cross Gates Primary School's provision for SMSC learning opportunities outside of curriculum subjects permeates pupils' lives at Cross Gates.

The following is not an exhaustive record of the opportunities available for pupils at Cross Gates. SMSC skills and understanding are developed through:

- The school council, pupil forum, school ambassadors afford children personal investments in the **moral** codes of the school, and therefore supports their moral development.
- Whole-school and class assemblies are often vehicles for the promotion of **moral** values and ethics (for example, anti-bullying assemblies, recycling).
- Cross Gates students attend local events within the community, thereby encouraging **moral** understanding by valuing all members of society.
- Educational visits and in particular residential visits involve the development of many **social** skills for pupils.
- A range of musical, artistic and creative performances provide opportunities for pupils to develop **social** skills through team working, and also promote **cultural** appreciation and reflection of artistic, music and thespian talents.
- Sports teams necessitate **social** development by sharing effort and endeavour in order to succeed.
- The public speaking club celebrates **cultural** achievement and appreciation of the spoken word.
- The school's music lessons provides tuition in a variety of instruments along with the singing session, provides pupils with rich **cultural** learning opportunities through music.
- The school's annual celebration days celebrate our rich British culture in which children learn aspects of the past, enriching pupils knowledge of British **cultures** and traditions.

Working with parents, carers, governors and members of the community

It is important that parents and carers support what we are doing in school regarding the spiritual, cultural, moral and social skills of pupils. We encourage parents' involvement through our 'open door' policy, newsletters, Twitter, assemblies and extra-curricular achievements are celebrated, and close home/school liaison.

Parents are also invited to attend meetings prior to pupils' attendance on residential visits in order for parents to gain a fuller understanding of the social and cultural elements within such visits.