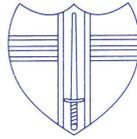


ALL SAINTS C.E. JUNIOR ACADEMY



SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL & CULTURAL POLICY

Reviewed by M Hinxman/K Hurd	11/11/2016
Approved by the Local Governing Body on:	21/11/2016
Review Date:	Nov 2019

At All Saints CE Junior Academy we all have responsibility for promoting values to help one another develop, spiritually, morally, socially and culturally. Every school has the responsibility to promote these values but our church academy expects to have a distinctive set based on our Christian foundation. One of the aims within our Mission Statement is to develop 'Christian values taught within the context of a faithful and practising Church community'.

Church Ethos

To promote the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development of our pupils we provide the Christian ethos in which they can flourish.

We consider the following aspects of school life to be vital in creating this ethos:-

- That everyone understands and respects the Christian foundation of our church academy.
- That our staff, pupils, parents and governors all demonstrate caring and respectful relationships. That all respect the uniqueness of the individual, (that, "We are all unique and special because God made us."), whilst recognising the need for co-operation to support the whole school community.
- That our academy is a 'safe' place in which to worship and that this worship and particularly prayer is not restricted to collective worship in the halls but that it can permeate all aspects of school life.
- That organisation within our classrooms, agreed rules, standards of behaviour, policies and values inherent in our relationships are based on Christian values
- That we have an effective pastoral system also supported by our school council where the views of pupils are heard and respected.
- That curriculum and aspect programmes, wherever possible and, in particular, those concerned with personal, health, sex, PSHE and citizenship, should be set in the context of our Christian values.

- That sensitive and effective provision is made for children from "different groups" and in particular those vulnerable to underachievement (see Inclusion Policy Statement), and that extra-curricular activities provide additional support.
- That ours is an academy which has strong links with All Saints and St. Clements' parish, welcomes members of its congregation to worship with us whilst, in turn, we contribute to the life of our church.
- That the warmth of our welcome to visitors, pupils and adults alike indicates immediately the Christian values we seek to promote.
- That our building and resources support a Church school education and that we can display Christian symbols with confidence to indicate the Christian foundation of our academy.
- That all values based on Christian principles are offered rather than forced.

The general life of our academy promotes spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Spiritual Development

This is often hard to assess as it is so personal to the individual. However, within an ethos which promotes spiritual development successfully, social, moral and cultural development is most likely to flourish.

We recognise that 'spiritual' is not synonymous with 'religious' but see the Christian ethos of our academy as a supporting influence for spiritual development. Our academy aims to educate the whole person. Such education is not limited to curriculum and educational process but takes into account the people concerned. The teacher plays a vital role in looking for cross-curricular opportunities which allow pupils to:

- Reflect and have insights into their personal existence
- See meaning in their experience
- Value a non-material dimension to life
- Begin to understand their value within the context of the wider world.

Our pupils should have an awareness of feelings of awe, wonder and mystery and be able to suggest experiences that can evoke these feelings. They should be able to explain that humans have an inter-dependent relationship with the natural world and be aware of responses ensuing from this relationship.

Moral Development

We aim to aid pupils' ability to:-

- Distinguish between 'right' and 'wrong'
- To make their own judgments about how to behave and why

- Look at the motives and attitudes which influence behaviour

Pupils are aware of the Mission Statement and how the academy wants to apply it. Each class negotiates its own rules and owns them. School and playground rules are shared during circle time, Collective Worship and assembly to help pupils understand the reason for them and how to interpret them.

Pupils should be able to give examples of religious teachings on moral issues. They will be aware that people may have different perceptions as to what is 'right' and 'wrong' and that making decisions will not always be straightforward.

Our Behaviour, Teaching and Learning, Equalities and Anti-bullying Policies are updated to reflect the changing needs of the school community.

The School Council members consider issues that affect the well being of the school community and they help promote good relationships. They report to the Associate Principal and the local Governing Body and help inform future planning in regard to the curriculum and the well being of members of community members.

Social Development

We aim to educate our pupils to gain an understanding of society. Through worship themes, citizenship education and practical work within the community, we aim to help pupils understand their role in society, the effects that political and economical situations can have on their lives and their roles within their family and within the work place. We want to equip them with the knowledge and skills to help them contribute fully to society. (See also PSHE and Citizenship Policy). As with all 'values' education this aspect won't be taught in isolation but rather as a strand across the curriculum. Pupils are expected to take on responsibilities within the academy, e.g. Sports Leaders, to identify and support lonely people at playtime and to help younger pupils play.

Pupils will be able to explain the significant contribution of different people, individuals and communities. They will begin to evaluate the impact of religious beliefs, practices and values on their lives and that of others.

As 'Global Citizens' they will begin to have some understanding of the need to protect environmental resources, to consider working towards a more sustainable future for the world.

Cultural Development

Our ever-changing society and the large number of cultures, languages and faiths of our pupils and staff represented at All Saints CE Junior Academy provide a wealth of opportunity for children to increase their knowledge about customs, beliefs, attitudes and values which can be peculiar to one group or common to society.

We have a partnership link to Edest School, in Sierra Leone, and partake in reciprocal visits (teaching staff) to help support further cultural development.

Art, drama, dance and music are particular areas where cultural interest can be shared but all areas of the curriculum can support this. Our local community is rich in resources to support cultural development.

Pupils will have access to many expressive art forms and have a growing awareness of other languages. They will begin to discern the possible meanings within a range of folk stories and develop greater awareness of the values upheld within different faiths and cultures. They will develop in their ability to compare similarities and differences and to show tolerance and understanding.

Planning, Assessment, Monitoring, Reporting

Our staff members are encouraged to seek and plan for opportunities across the curriculum for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Opportunities within PSHE and Citizenship teaching promote this further. Governors at their monitoring meetings consider the progress made by a cross section of children in areas of development.

Written reports to parents annually comment on aspects of social and moral development, refer to cultural development within subject areas and have a separate statement about the child's spiritual development.

Collective Worship Themes

Alongside festivals celebrated within the Church calendar, Christian values form the basis for the themes shared in Collective Worship. All children attend Collective Worship. Opportunities are provided for pupils to take on responsibilities within Collective worship, such as choosing 'gathering' and 'sending' responses and prayers.