**St Oswald’s CE Primary School**

**Policy for Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural Development**



Last Review Date: December 2016

Next Review Date: December 2018

Frequency of Review: Every 2 years

**Policy for Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural Development**

The importance of pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development at St Oswald’s is reflected in our Vision and Values Statement, which states our aim that:

*“Everything we do contributes to children’s personal, spiritual, moral and cultural development.”*

**The Legal Background**

The Education Reform Act (1988) requires the curriculum of a maintained school to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school.

All maintained schools – including church schools – must provide a daily act of collective worship for all registered pupils.

**The Church of England Perspective**

All Church of England schools are inspected under the Statutory Inspection of Anglican & Methodist Schools (SIAMS) framework. Inspectors will evaluate

*‘how effectively the Christian character supports the spiritual, moral, social and cultural*

*development of all learners whether they are Christian, of other faiths or of none.’*

This may include consideration of:

* *the breadth of experiences available to all learners through curricular and extra-curricular activities*
* *how well the school offers opportunities for learners to reflect on and respond to beliefs, values and profound human experiences from a range of faith perspectives*
* *the extent to which the opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development are characterised by distinctively Christian values*
* *how well daily collective worship, religious education and other aspects of the curriculum enable learners to make informed choices which are based on Christian values*
* *the extent to which the school operates as a distinctively Christian community*

(The Evaluation Schedule for the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools, Sept 2013)

**The Ofsted Perspective**

Ofsted defines spiritual, moral, social and cultural development as follows:

The spiritual development of pupils 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.

The moral development of pupils is shown by their:

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

The social development of pupils is shown by their:

* use of a range of social skills in different contexts, for example working and socialising with other pupils, including those from different religious, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds
* willingness to participate in a variety of communities and social settings, including by volunteering, cooperating well with others and being able to resolve conflicts effectively
* acceptance and 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; they develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.

The cultural development of pupils is shown by their:

* understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage and those of others
* understanding and appreciation of the range of different cultures within school and further afield as an essential element of their 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, musical, sporting and cultural opportunities
* interest in exploring, improving understanding of and showing respect for different faiths and cultural diversity and the extent to which they understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity, as shown by their tolerance and attitudes towards different religious, ethnic and socio-economic groups in the local, national and global communities.

(Ofsted Inspection Handbook, September 2016)

**How will we promote pupils’ spiritual development at St Oswald’s?**

1. **We will give children opportunities to understand and reflect on our school’s core values by:**

* All adults modelling these values in their daily interactions
* Providing a planned programme of assemblies, class reflection opportunities linked to these values
* Reinforcing the school Code of Conduct and its links to these values
* Celebrating and rewarding examples of these values in action (e.g. using ‘Oswalds’ / House points)

1. **We will develop children’s understanding of religious faith and beliefs through:**

* High quality teaching and learning in RE
* Marking key Christian festivals and other festivals, especially those of significance to our community
* Giving children opportunities to meet and engage with representatives of different faith communities, especially those who are part of our local community
* Giving pupils opportunities to participate in prayer, reflection and collective worship
* Giving pupils opportunities to be involved in the planning and delivery of collective worship

1. **We will promote children’s imaginative and creative abilities by:**

* Providing opportunities to develop imaginative and creative skills through the curriculum and extra-curricular activities
* Celebrating imaginative and creative achievements by members of the school community
* Providing opportunities for pupils to engage with people / experiences which will stimulate their imagination and creative responses

1. **We will promote children’s curiosity, love of learning and sense of ‘awe and wonder’ by:**

* Providing an engaging and meaningful curriculum for all pupils
* Encouraging pupils to observe, appreciate and reflect on the natural world

**How will we promote pupils’ moral development at St Oswald’s?**

1. **We will promote a set of core values and give children opportunities to understand and reflect on these by:**

* All adults modelling these values in their daily interactions and applying them consistently through the school Behaviour Policy
* Providing a planned programme of assemblies, class reflection opportunities linked to these values (‘Values in Action’ Plan)
* Reinforcing the school Code of Conduct and Behaviour Policy and its links to these values
* Celebrating and rewarding examples of these values in action (e.g. using ‘Oswalds’ / House points)

1. **We will develop children’s ability to make moral choices by:**

* Providing pupils with opportunities to encounter, discuss and understand moral issues through the curriculum (e.g. Literacy, RE) and our ‘Values in Action’ Plan

1. **We will encourage children to engage with significant moral / ethical issues by:**

* Half-termly whole school ‘Big Question’
* Participating in appropriate awareness-raising initiatives or campaigns (e.g. ‘Send My Friend to School’)

**How will we promote pupils’ social development at St Oswald’s?**

1. **We will help children to develop co-operative skills and attitudes by:**

* All adults modelling these in their daily interactions
* Providing opportunities to develop these skills through learning activities in all areas of the curriculum
* Promoting and celebrating the diversity of our school community

1. **We will encourage pupils to play an active, positive role in our school and local community by:**

* Providing opportunities to take on responsibilities in school (e.g. School Council, Buddies, Prefects)
* Providing opportunities for pupils to engage with and help members of the local community (e.g. ‘Time Out,’ Village Café)
* Celebrating good examples of active citizenship

1. **We will encourage our pupils to make an active, positive contribution to the wider or global community by:**

* Designating a termly focus for charitable fund-raising
* Participating in appropriate awareness-raising projects or campaigns (e.g. ‘Send My Friend to School,’ ‘Walk to School Week.’)
* Encouraging pupils to initiate their own projects

**How will we promote pupils’ cultural development at St Oswald’s?**

1. **We will encourage pupils to develop respectful and tolerant attitudes towards diversity by:**

* All adults modelling these attitudes in their daily interactions
* Celebrating diversity in our school and community
* Reinforcing the values of respect and tolerance through our Code of Conduct and Values in Action plan
* Giving pupils opportunities to learn about and understand different faiths and cultures through the curriculum
* Giving pupils opportunities to experience and appreciate aspects of a range of global cultures (e.g art, music, language, literature, food)

1. **We will help pupils to understand and appreciate their own cultural heritage by:**

* Providing opportunities through the curriculum to study key aspects of our heritage (e.g. historical periods, important artists / authors / works of literature)
* Providing opportunities for pupils to visit significant places in their own locality and beyond (e.g. St Oswald’s Church, York Minster)
* Providing opportunities for pupils to learn about the cultural background of other members of the class / school community

1. **We will encourage pupils to participate in and enjoy a range of artistic, sporting and cultural activities by:**

* Providing a curriculum which offers high quality learning opportunities in dance, drama, music, art and sport
* Providing opportunities to participate in a wide range of high quality extra-curricular artistic / sporting / cultural activities
* Facilitating and encouraging individual artistic / sporting development and excellence (e.g. through instrumental tuition, participation in local sports teams)
* Organising whole school events (e.g. Art Days, Sports Week, Celebration of the Arts)
* Participating in important local and national cultural / sporting events (e.g. Tour de France )
* Celebrating artistic, sporting and cultural achievements by all members of the school community
* Providing opportunities for pupils to perform for a range of audiences
* Giving pupils opportunities to meet / learn about / work with individuals who have expertise or provide excellent role models in their field

1. **We will give pupils an understanding of democratic values by:**

* Giving pupils meaningful opportunities to participate in decision-making in school (e.g. School Council, Sports Council)
* Providing opportunities for pupils to represent or elect peers for positions of responsibility (e.g. School Council)
* Enabling pupils to engage with and understand parliamentary democracy (e.g. contacting local MP re ‘Send My Friend to School’ and other issues; holding mock elections)