SMSCD Policy 2026 – 2027
St Michael in the Hamlet Primary School

Introduction -What is SMSCDD?

All schools in England must demonstrate how effectively their pupils develop spiritually, morally, socially and culturally (SMSCD). SMSCD is not a discrete subject but is embedded across the curriculum and within the ethos and daily life of the school. Some lessons lend themselves more easily to direct teaching and SMSCD development such as PSHE, Philosophy for Children and RE.

At St Michael-in-the-Hamlet School, we recognize that the SMSCD element of pupils' education is crucial to their development as an individual, allowing them to take their rightful place in their community as a local, national and global citizen. All staff contribute to the delivery and development of SMSCD through having high expectations of relationships and behaviour at school.

Definitions of SMSCD:

- Spiritual: Explore beliefs and experience; respect faiths, feelings and values; enjoy learning about oneself, others and the surrounding world; use imagination and creativity; reflect.
- Moral: Recognise right and wrong; respect the law; understand consequences; investigate moral and ethical issues; offer reasoned views and have an appreciation of British Values.
- Social: Engage with moral issues; appreciate diverse viewpoints; participate, volunteer and cooperate; resolve conflict; understand and engage with the fundamental values of British democracy.
- Cultural: Appreciate cultural influences; appreciate the role of Britain's parliamentary system; participate in culture opportunities; understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity.

Vision:

It is our vision that SMSCD permeates all aspects of school life. Through SMSCD provision, we aim to develop attitudes and values that will enable pupils to be reflective, respectful, responsible and caring. Pupils are encouraged to explore life's fundamental questions, including their own personal journey and purpose, develop independence in thought and build an understanding of the diverse world in which they live, which will continue to benefit them as they move through the education system and then into the wider world.

At St Michael-in-the-Hamlet School, pupils are helped to develop positive attitudes and beliefs by being given opportunities to:

- Develop spiritual values and reasoned personal and moral values;
- Develop their understanding and respect for those with different religions, beliefs and ways of life and value everyone equally;
- Develop personal relationships, based on trust, self-esteem and mutual respect;
- Become active, responsible citizens in a democratic society;
- Develop an understanding of the multicultural world in which they live and the interdependence of individuals, groups, nations and the environment.

Intent:

Our SMSCD provision including our PSHE curriculum units of work support pupils' social, moral, spiritual and cultural development, wellbeing, safeguarding and personal development. Pupils will:

- develop positive character and resilience;
- understand British Values;
- maintain physical and mental wellbeing;
- develop talents and interests;
- become responsible citizens;
- respect diversity and the value of each individual;
- transition successfully.

Equality and Diversity:

The school is committed to equality of opportunity and fostering an inclusive environment in line with the Equality Act 2010. We actively challenge discrimination and promote respect for all protected characteristics.

Our curriculum provides planned opportunities for pupils to explore identity, diversity and inclusion. Through RE, PSHE lessons, curriculum content, including diverse texts and topics (e.g. Pathways to Write: Inspiring Black Lives), ensures representation and promotes inclusive thinking. Interfaith work and whole-school events, pupils gain meaningful understanding of different cultures, beliefs and lifestyles. These opportunities deepen their understanding, challenge misconceptions, and promote respectful attitudes towards people from different backgrounds.

Pupils are encouraged to think critically, challenge stereotypes and develop empathy through structured discussions such as P4C. Our inclusive ethos, including the Hive Enhanced Resource Provision, ensures pupils learn alongside peers with a range of needs, promoting understanding of neurodiversity and difference.

Events such as Black History Month, Anti-Bullying Week, ADHD Awareness and Refugee Week further deepen understanding and encourage pupils to reflect on fairness, equality and social responsibility.

Implementation:

The school's SMITH values are embedded consistently across the curriculum and daily practice, reinforcing respect, kindness, and thoughtful behaviour. This is reflected in pupils' attitudes, their ability to work collaboratively, and their respect for others.

As a school we are aware of our collective responsibilities and we:

- Ensure that all staff are aware of their role in developing pupils' moral interpersonal skills, self-esteem and in preparing pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life;
- Conduct staff and governor training, so that staff receive input into the significance of key elements of SMSCD e.g. Diversity and Inclusion across the curriculum;
- Ensure we celebrate pupil achievement, foster a sense of community, explore relevant SMSCD issues and involve pupils as active participants as much as possible. This is demonstrated through a wide range of events such as the annual Permewan evening in the Summer Term where avariety of prizes are awarded to Year 6 pupils. There are also class and Headteacher Achievement Awards for all year groups to recognise effort and participation in the life of the school which encourages a culture of success and achievement for all;
- Encourage pupils to contribute to the school by developing their leadership roles as prefects, buddies, elected house captains, eco and Fair-Trade class representatives, school councillors etc;
- Ensure pupils have information about all extra-curricular and enrichment activities;
- Ensure displays reflect and respect diversity;
- Provide opportunities for all pupils to participate in extra-curricular activities, trips, visits and enrichment days/weeks and events such as Earth Day, Red Nose Day, Mental Health Week, to ensure pupils foster their sense of being part of a global community;
- Ensure that staff provide a role model based on courtesy, mutual respect, positive intent and be prepared to listen to pupils' views and encourage them to listen to each other, through class discussion and use of Philosophy

for Children lessons;
- Across the wider curriculum, we strive to ensure all subjects make a link to PSHE, British Values and the language is used consistently by all staff. Whole school, Key Stage and class assemblies always make a link to SMSCD, PSHE and school Values.

Impact:

Our effective SMSCD provision will be used as a whole-school approach to positively impact wellbeing, safeguarding and PSHE outcomes. This will ensure that all children are able to:

- Develop character which gives them the qualities they need to flourish in our society;
- Be well prepared for modern British life, by having a good understanding of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, tolerance and respect;
- Be well supported by knowing how to eat healthily, maintain an active lifestyle and keep physically and mentally healthy;
- Be able to develop their talents and interests and direct their own learning;
- Become responsible, active citizens who can contribute positively to society;
- Understand, appreciate and respect differences in the world and its people, celebrating the things we share across cultural, religious, ethnic and socio-economic communities;
- Be equipped to make the transition to the next stage in their learning journey, successfully.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

SMSCD provision is monitored through:

- Lesson observations and learning walks;
- Pupil voice;
- Curriculum reviews;
- Safeguarding, behaviour and wellbeing data;
- Governor oversight.

The impact of SMSCD is evaluated regularly to ensure continuous improvement.

Reviewed: Autumn 2027
Next Review: Autumn 2028