



Woburn Lower School

Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural Policy

Rational

The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the child is recognised as being of fundamental importance for the education of all children by Governors, staff and parents of our school. It is taught through all subjects of the curriculum and in particular RE and PHSE. It supports all areas of learning and can contribute to the child's motivation to learn. It is recognised that such development will be most successful when the values and attitudes promoted by the staff provide a model of behaviour for the children. In later years it can enrich the individual's appreciation of life's experiences and their relationships with others.

School Ethos

The values and attitudes promoted by the staff influence the behaviour and attitudes within the school. The quality of relationships and the atmosphere within the school reflect an appreciation of their shared values.

Spiritual Development

Spiritual development is relevant to all children not only those who come from Christian homes.

In developing the spirituality of children, we help them to become aware of:

- The human search for meaning and purpose of life which may lead to an understanding and belief of God
- The joy of being alive
- The beauty of the natural world
- The mystery and wonder of existence
- The world of imagination and creativity
- The value of the non-material dimension of life
- The need to understand oneself and one's feelings
- The need to value oneself and one's feelings.
- The need to recognise the feelings and achievements of others

At Woburn Lower School we foster spiritual development by:

- Developing high self-esteem through encouraging children to take risks or face challenges in their learning within a secure and positive environment
- Demonstrating an appreciation for work of the child's imagination and providing opportunities for them to use their own creativity and imagination
- Offering opportunities for aesthetic experience in art, music, dance, and literature
- Making time for stillness and reflection which may lead to children coming to the threshold of prayer
- Posing questions that encourage children to consider issues of meaning and purpose
- Showing that it is not always possible to provide an absolute answer and at such times it is a positive experience to value a variety of interpretations and responses

- Improving co-operation and understanding in relationships, providing opportunities such as group activities and pupil voice where children have constructive and enjoyable interaction with others; it is important that they sometimes work with those children who they would not normally choose as partners
- Fostering emotional well-being by encouraging children to express their feelings and to have the ability to control their emotional behaviour
- Developing the capacity for evaluative reasoning and critical thought by encouraging children to look beyond the surface

These opportunities appear across the curriculum and are clearly scheduled in RE and PSHE.

Moral Development

Moral development refers to the children's knowledge, understanding, intentions and attitudes. At Woburn Lower School our Curriculum is designed to:

- Develop the child's awareness and understanding of the moral code of the communities in which they live
- Help the child to realise that to enjoy rights we have to accept responsibilities
- Develop the child's understanding of why rules are necessary
- Develop the child's self-discipline so that rules are observed as a point of principle and not out of the fear of sanctions
- Give the child the knowledge and ability to question and to reason so that they are capable of deciding on the most appropriate action after considering the consequences of an action.
- Develop the skills necessary to explain their own behaviour
- Value physical well being, privacy, feelings, beliefs and rights of others.

Cultural Development

Development in this area allows the child to recognise that all cultural groups are distinctive. Culture is the embodiment of shared beliefs, knowledge, customs and values of that group. At Woburn Lower school we help the children to develop their knowledge and understanding of their own culture as well as that of others through:

- Exposing children to a wealth of stimuli from their own culture and those of others. This will be taught through the whole curriculum in particular RE, Literature and Music. Visits out of school and visitors to the school will support this teaching
- Encouraging participation in and appreciation of the wealth of cultural traditions and the beliefs associated with these
- Encouraging tolerance and appreciation of the beliefs, value and customs of different cultures

Related policies:

All Curriculum policies

PSHE

Values

Relationships and Health

Anti-bullying

Behaviour

Governor:

Date: May 2024

Headteacher: Mrs Paula Black

Date: May 2024

Review: May 2025