



## **Ayios Nikolaos Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development Policy**

Date Reviewed: September 2020

Date of Next Review: September 2021

**Head Teacher: Mrs Sarah Baillie**

**SGC Chair: Lt Col S Clifford**

Other relevant Policies:

- Policy Statement for Promoting British Values at Ayios Nikolaos Primary School

At Ayios Nikolaos Primary School the promotion of the pupils' Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development is considered a whole school issue and at the heart of the school's aims and ethos. Through this policy we aim to concentrate on the development of the pupils as individuals, each with their unique personalities. By treating pupils as individuals, we aim to enrich, extend and broaden their attitudes and beliefs not only within the school environment but also in their future lives. All staff and members of the School Governance Committee at Ayios Nikolaos Primary School recognise that our individual pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development plays a significant role in their overall education and their ability to learn and achieve.

### **Delivery Through Our Ethos and Values**

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development is through the ethos of the school and through the development of positive attitudes and our school values. The climate and ethos of our school supports the development of SMSC throughout the school day. In addition, the importance of relationships between all school staff, parents and governors is crucial. These relationships are characterised by mutual respect, positive attitudes and by valuing of everyone in our school community. At Ayios Nikolaos we provide an environment in which pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development can flourish.

### **Delivery Through the Curriculum**

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development is cross curricular. It is an expectation at School that all staff, in all subjects, contribute to the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development of pupils through the taught curriculum (using Jigsaw materials) and through the use of appropriate teaching and learning strategies e.g. discussion, reflection, pupil participation and circle time. Collective worship and the pupil voice also play an important role in the development of our pupils' SMSC development. Extra-curricular activities that are planned by our school also support our pupils' development in this area.

### **Delivery Through Our Links with Other Schools and Our Community**

As we live in a unique environment, our local community plays an extremely important role in the development of our pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. We link with other MOD schools on island as well as, where has been practical and possible, with local Cypriot schools. By using our host nation links, we can enrich our pupils' development, particularly their cultural development.

## **Spiritual Development**

At Ayios Nikolaos Primary School we encourage spiritual development by:

- giving pupils the opportunity to explore values and beliefs, including religious beliefs, and the way in which they affect peoples' lives
- where pupils already have religious beliefs, supporting and developing these beliefs in ways which are personal and relevant to them
- encouraging pupils to explore and develop what animates themselves and others
- encouraging pupils to reflect and learn from reflection
- giving pupils the opportunity to understand human feelings and emotions, the way they affect people and how an understanding of them can be helpful
- developing a climate or ethos within which all pupils can grow and flourish, respect others and be respected
- accommodating difference and respecting the integrity of individuals

This is also achieved by promoting teaching styles which:

- value pupils' questions and give them space for their own thoughts, ideas and concerns
- enable pupils to make connections between aspects of their learning
- encourage pupils to relate their learning to a wider frame of reference – for example, asking 'why?', 'how?' and 'where?' as well as 'what?'

## **Moral Development**

At Ayios Nikolaos School we encourage moral development by:

- providing a clear moral code as a basis for behaviour which is promoted consistently through all aspects of the school
- promoting measures to prevent discrimination on the basis of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age and other criteria
- giving pupils opportunities across the curriculum to explore and develop moral concepts and values – for example, personal rights and responsibilities, truth, justice, equality of opportunity, right and wrong
- developing an open and safe learning environment in which pupils can express their views and practise moral decision-making
- rewarding expressions of moral insights and good behaviour
- making an issue of breaches of agreed moral codes where they arise – for example, in the press, on television and the internet as well as in school
- modelling, through the quality of relationships and interactions, the principles which they wish to promote – for example, fairness, integrity, respect for people, pupils' welfare, respect for minority interests, resolution of conflict, keeping promises and contracts
- recognising and respecting the codes and morals of the different cultures represented in the school and wider community
- encouraging pupils to take responsibility for their actions; for example, respect for property, care of the environment, and developing codes of behaviour
- providing models of moral virtue through literature, humanities, sciences, arts, assemblies and acts of worship
- reinforcing the school's values through images, posters, classroom displays, screensavers, exhibitions
- Social development is about developing skills to work effectively with each other and participating successfully in the community as a whole. It is about the development of personal qualities necessary for living and working together and functioning effectively in a multi-cultural society.

## **Social Development**

At Ayios Nikolaos Primary School we encourage social development by:

- identifying key values and principles on which school and community life is based
- fostering a sense of community, with common, inclusive values which ensure that everyone, irrespective of ethnic origin, nationality, gender, ability, sexual orientation and religion can flourish
- encouraging pupils to work co-operatively
- encouraging pupils to recognise and respect social differences and similarities
- providing positive corporate experiences – for example, through assemblies, team activities, residential experiences, school productions
- helping pupils develop personal qualities which are valued in a civilised society, for example, thoughtfulness, honesty, respect for difference, moral principles, independence, inter-dependence, self-respect
- helping pupils to challenge, when necessary and in appropriate ways, the values of a group or wider community
- helping pupils resolve tensions between their own aspirations and those of the group or wider society
- providing a conceptual and linguistic framework within which to understand and debate social issues
- providing opportunities for engaging in the democratic process and participating in community life
- providing opportunities for pupils to exercise leadership and responsibility
- providing positive and effective links with the world of work and the wider community

## **Cultural Development**

At Ayios Nikolaos Primary School we encourage social development by:

- providing opportunities for pupils to explore their own cultural assumptions and values
- presenting authentic accounts of the attitudes, values and traditions of diverse cultures
- addressing discrimination on the grounds of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age and other criteria and promoting racial and other forms of equality
- extending pupils' knowledge and use of cultural imagery and language
- recognising and nurturing particular gifts and talents
- providing opportunities for pupils to participate in literature, drama, music, art, crafts and other cultural events and encouraging pupils to reflect on their significance
- developing partnerships with outside agencies and individuals to extend pupils' cultural awareness, for example, theatre, museum, concert and gallery visits, resident artists, foreign exchanges
- reinforcing the school's cultural values through displays, posters, exhibitions, etc
- auditing the quality and nature of opportunities for pupils to extend their cultural development across the curriculum
- the range of opportunities provided by the school outside the formal curriculum
- the relationships developed by the school with the wider community
- the tone and content of material published by the school.

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Provision and impact of SMSC development is monitored and reviewed on a regular basis by:

- Monitoring of teaching and learning and work scrutiny by Subject Leaders / Senior Leadership Team
- Regular review at staff and governors' meetings.