# Elworth C of E Primary School



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# SMSC & British Values Policy

| Date:  | October 2023 |
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| Review Cycle:  | 2 Yearly |
| Reviewed By:  | Mrs J Rookes |
| Approved By:  | Mr N Garratt  |
| Next review date:  | October 2025 |
| Nominated Governor: | Rev D Page |

**Mission Statement**

At Elworth CE Primary school we believe in the Church of England's vision for education which is 'Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good.' Education should enable children to flourish and reach their full God given potential. To do this fully we need to develop children's characters so that they not only succeed academically but flourish in life skills. This is the basis of Character education; a concept of lifelong learning where pupils live out the virtues they encounter and learn to take their place as active global citizens. Our hope is that every child will become courageous advocates for change. We aspire that all our children are a blessing beyond the school walls, beyond their families, beyond their local community, as global citizens. To achieve this the children and adults at Elworth embark on an exciting and adventurous journey together joining in with God's redemptive work in the world and learn to be advocates for change.

At Elworth we create a stimulating and caring environment, grounded in Christian belief and practice, so that all members of our school community can flourish. We therefore aim to provide an education that provides pupils with opportunities to explore and develop their own values and beliefs, spiritual awareness, high standards of personal behaviour, a positive caring attitude towards other people, an understanding of their social and cultural traditions and an appreciation of diversity within modern Britain. We maintain that learning should be a rewarding experience for everyone; it should be enjoyable. Through our teaching we equip children with the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to be able to make informed choices about the important things in their lives.

**Guidelines**

All curriculum areas have a contribution to make to the child’s spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and opportunities for this will be planned in each area of the curriculum.

Christian spirituality and Christian values and principles will be explored in all curriculum areas, especially in RE/Collective Worship, but the integrity and spirituality of pupils from other faith backgrounds will be respected and explored. The diversity of spiritual traditions will be recognised, and pupils will be given access to alternative views.

All adults will model and promote expected behaviour, treating all people as unique and valuable individuals and showing (Christian) love and respect for pupils and their families.

The school community will be a place where pupils can find acceptance for themselves as unique individuals and where forgiveness and the opportunity to start again is fundamental to the ethos of the school.

Pupils should learn to differentiate between right and wrong as far as their actions affect other people. They will be encouraged to value themselves and others.

Pupils should understand the need for rules and the need to abide by rules for the good of everyone. School and classroom rules should reflect, reiterate, promote and reward acceptable behaviour and provide opportunities to celebrate pupils’ work and achievements.

All curriculum areas should seek to use illustrations and examples drawn from as wide a range of cultural contexts as possible. This will be reflected in the teacher's planning.

# **General Aims**

* To ensure that everyone connected with the school is aware of our values and principles.
* To ensure a consistent approach to the delivery of SMSC issues through the curriculum and the general life of the school.
* To ensure all children know and understand the importance of British Values and how they are part of our everyday life.
* To ensure that a pupil’s education is set within a context that is meaningful and appropriate to their age, aptitude and background.
* To ensure that pupils know what is expected of them and why.
* To give each pupil a range of opportunities to reflect upon and discuss their beliefs, feelings and responses to personal experience.
* To enable pupils to develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.
* To enable pupils to begin to develop an understanding of their social and cultural environment, and an appreciation of the many cultures that now enrich our society.
* To give each pupil the opportunity to explore social and moral issues, and develop a sense of social and moral responsibility.

### **Spiritual Development**

*As a school we aim to provide learning opportunities that will enable pupils to:*

* Sustain their self-esteem in their learning experience.
* Develop their capacity for critical and independent thought.
* Foster their emotional life and express their feelings
* Experience moments of stillness and reflection and give opportunity to pray
* Discuss their beliefs, feelings, values and responses to personal experiences.
* Form and maintain worthwhile and satisfying relationships
* Reflect on, consider and celebrate the wonders and mysteries of life.

### **Moral Development**

*As a school we aim to provide learning opportunities that will enable pupils to:*

* Recognise the unique value of each individual.
* Recognise the challenge of Jesus’ teaching.
* Listen and respond appropriately to the views of others.
* Gain the confidence to cope with setbacks and learn from mistakes.
* Take initiative and act responsibly with consideration for others.
* Distinguish between right and wrong.
* Show respect for the environment.
* Make informed and independent judgements.

### **Social Development**

*As a school we aim to promote opportunities that will enable pupils to:*

* Develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.
* Learn about service in the school and wider community.
* Begin to understand the Christian imperative for social justice and a concern for the disadvantaged.

### **Cultural Development**

*As a school we aim to promote opportunities that will enable pupils to:*

* Recognise the value and richness of cultural diversity in Britain, and how these influenced individuals and society.
* Recognise Christianity as a world-wide faith.
* Develop an understanding of their social and cultural environment.
* Develop an understanding of Britain’s local, national, European, Commonwealth and global dimensions.

# The 5 British Values are:

* Tolerance
* Democracy
* Rules of Law
* Individual liberty
* Mutual Respect

*As a school we aim to promote opportunities that will enable pupils to:*

* *Know what British Values are*
* *Understand why British Values are so important*
* *Know that British Values are based on Christian values and underpin moral education*
* *To understand and know how to Respect others and the places they visit*

# How do we achieve this?

Development in SMSC will take place across all curriculum areas, within activities that encourage pupils to recognise the spiritual dimension of their learning, reflect on the significance of what they are learning, and to recognise any challenges that there may be to their own attitude and lifestyle.

All curriculum areas should seek illustrations and examples drawn from as wide a range of cultural contexts as possible.

*Class discussions and circle time will give pupils opportunities to:*

* Talk about personal experiences and feelings.
* Express and clarify their own ideas and beliefs.
* Speak about difficult events, eg bullying, death etc.
* Share thoughts and feelings with other people.
* Explore relationships with friends/family/others.
* Consider others' needs and behaviour.
* Show empathy.
* Develop self-esteem and a respect for others.
* Develop a sense of belonging.
* Develop the skills and attitudes that enable pupils to develop socially, morally, spiritually and culturally – eg empathy, respect, open mindedness, sensitivity, critical awareness, etc

*Many curriculum areas provide opportunities to:*

* Listen and talk to each other.
* Learn an awareness of treating all as equals, and accepting people who are physically or mentally different.
* Agree and disagree.
* Take turns and share equipment.
* Work co-operatively and collaboratively.

# **Links with the wider community**

* Visitors are welcomed into school.
* Links with the Church are fostered through links with the local church and the Diocesan Board of Education.
* The development of a strong home-school link is regarded as very important, enabling parents and teachers to work in an effective partnership to support the pupil.
* Pupils will be taught to appreciate their local environment and to develop a sense of responsibility to it.

# **Evaluation**

*Provision for SMSC is monitored and reviewed on a regular basis. This is achieved by:*

* Regular discussion at staff and governors’ meetings
* Audit of policies and Schemes of Work.
* Sharing of classroom work and practice.
* Audit of Collective Worship policy and practice.
* Pupil’s work