



Archbishop Holgate's School

A Church of England Academy

SMSC POLICY

(Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural Policy)

This policy explains SMSC, how we deliver it and what it looks like at Archbishop Holgate's School.

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Member of staff responsible: SLa – Assistant Head teacher

Archbishop Holgate's School is committed to developing to the full, the potential of each member of the school community, within the context set by its mission, its strategic aims, and its Christian values as a Church of England Academy.

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Vision and Values of Archbishop Holgate's School

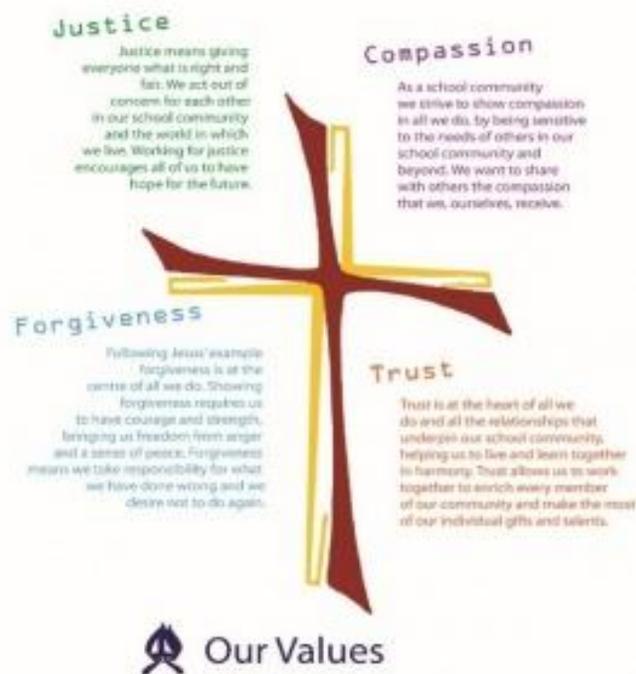
As a Church of England school we strive to ensure that all of our young people are cared for, given every opportunity to develop through academic study, to grow personally and spiritually and to live into being those Values we hold dear in our community and in wider society. Our role as a Church school is to help nurture both academic excellence and to help shape young people who can make a significant contribution to the community they serve. Key to this is a clear recognition that all students have individual gifts and talents and with support every young person can flourish.

Archbishop Holgate's School is distinctive and effective as a Church of England school because our Christian vision and values are very explicit and drive all areas of school life. Our Vision is one which combines Values, Care and Achievement.

“A threefold cord is not easily broken.” Ecclesiastes 4:12

Through this vision we seek to be a Church of England School which is deeply Christian. As such, the three themes of our vision, Values, Care and Achievement are deliberately expressed in that order, our distinct Christian Values help ensure that every child is cared for as an individual and this in turn will help them to succeed academically.

Our school values of **Justice**, **Compassion**, **Forgiveness** and **Trust** have been embedded across our school community and permeate all areas of school life.



Inspired by the example of Jesus' life, these are the values we seek to nurture as a school community and live out day by day.

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This policy is to complement our vision and values and to enable the school to allow all members of Archbishop Holgate's community to live them into being every day.

Introduction

The school has a duty to meet the requirements set out in section 78 of the Education Act 2002 and promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of our pupils. Through ensuring students' SMSC development, we can also demonstrate that we are actively promoting the fundamental British values of: democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

The starting point when considering the effectiveness and distinctiveness of SMSC development is how well we, as an academy, provide an environment in which pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development can flourish. As such, it is imperative that we consistently consider and develop:

- The values projected by staff, governors and pupils;
- The relationships we encourages between pupils and staff;
- The way staff address pupils and vice versa;
- The way pupils address and care for each other;
- The way disputes and dissent are addressed;
- The quality of the physical environment;
- 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.

SMSC at Archbishop Holgate's

As a school, SMSC permeates all aspects of school life, from SLT and the Governing Body to classrooms and the school environment, as confirmed by the school's Values: Justice, Compassion, Trust and Forgiveness. These Values remain central to our work as a school and are encouraged and delivered through:

- Teaching and Learning
- SMSC and Values posters
- Thought for the Day materials
- 'This Week's News'
- Year Group Collective Worship
- Whole-School Collective Worship
- Enrichment Opportunities
- Extra-Curricular Activities
- Student Leadership
- Volunteering

What does SMSC look like?

In accordance with Ofsted Guidance (from 2017, updated 2018), we aim, through the range of opportunities provided, to enable our students to develop spiritually, morally, socially and culturally and thus promote and encourage 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
- 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
- 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
- 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