



SOCIAL, MORAL. SPIRITUAL. AND CULTURAL POLICY

General Principles

The College recognises that the full personal development of students relies very considerably on their social, moral, spiritual and cultural development. Students being aware of how to think about life with a clear understanding of social, moral, spiritual and cultural ideas plays a significant part in their ability to learn, achieve and take part in the life of the College community and the wider community. We aim to ensure that students enjoy an education and life at the College that enables them to explore, evaluate and develop their own values and beliefs through a very extensive range and depth of opportunities both within, and external to, the curriculum. Specific details of SMSC provision are available in the SEF, which is regularly updated.

Policy Objectives

The SMSC policy seeks to ensure that students are given opportunities to develop spiritual awareness, to understand a wide range of moral ideas and values, and to develop an extensive understanding of social and cultural traditions, customs and values. The policy seeks to support students' wider educational life in developing high standards of personal behaviour, an open, critical, thoughtful and tolerant approach to others, and a positive, caring attitude to other people and the wider community. The policy seeks to ensure that students are articulate and confident in their exploration of ideas and are confident in their communication with other people within and beyond the immediate environment of the College. The policy seeks to ensure that students develop to become well-rounded, confident, ambitious and open-minded and feel equipped to enter the world beyond the College with optimism and excitement.

The policy seeks also to ensure that teachers and other adults in the College community with whom students live and work are confident in their open engagement with social, moral, spiritual and cultural ideas and recognise the importance of developing awareness in students of the value of such knowledge and understanding.

Core Criteria

1. All curriculum areas have a contribution to make to students' social, moral, spiritual and cultural development and opportunities for this should be planned and evident in each area of the curriculum. Opportunities for students' SMSC development will be implicit in classroom practice and work in all years in all subjects.
2. SMSC development will also be embedded in the College's House system and in the nature of boarding life. The status of any student at the College will not impact in principle on his/her capacity to enjoy extensive SMSC opportunities.
3. All staff will model and promote expected behaviour, treating all people with respect
4. The College community will be a place where students feel valued and able to express and explore ideas in an open manner.
5. Students will learn to differentiate between right and wrong and be aware that their actions affect other people. Good personal conduct will be clear in the way in which students engage with others.
6. Students understand the need for rules and the need to abide by rules for the good of everyone. The College's Code of Conduct and other classroom rules will reflect, reiterate, promote and reward good behaviour and provide opportunities to celebrate students' work, success, and personal achievements
7. Students enjoy a range of opportunities to reflect upon and discuss their beliefs, feelings and responses to personal experience.
8. Students enjoy opportunities for leadership and collaborative working in all areas of College life and also in the wider community and take part in these opportunities enthusiastically and confidently.
9. Students develop an understanding of their individual and group identity and develop a sense of social and moral responsibility within and beyond the College community.
10. Students will meet a wide variety of people from beyond the College community who help to shape their thinking and offer inspiration and advice.

Specific Criteria

Social Development

As a College we aim to promote learning and other opportunities that will enable students to:

Develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.

Enjoy the pleasures of serving others within and beyond the College community.

Enjoy experiences of leadership.
Take risks and explore new opportunities and areas of life.
Meet a wide range of interesting people within and beyond the College community.
Assume ambassadorial roles within and beyond the College.
Feel confident in encouraging others and working supportively to help others.

Moral Development

As a College we aim to provide learning and other opportunities that will enable students to:

Recognise the unique value of each individual.
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.
Develop a healthy sense of curiosity and critical scepticism about received ideas.

Spiritual Development

As a College we aim to provide learning and other opportunities that will enable students to:

Develop their self-esteem in their learning experience.
Develop their capacity for critical and independent thought.
Develop their emotional life and capacity to express and explore their feelings.
Experience moments of stillness and reflection.
Discuss their beliefs, feelings, values and responses to personal experiences openly, without fear of ridicule.
Form and maintain worthwhile and satisfying relationships with peers and adults. Reflect on, consider and celebrate the wonders and mysteries of life.

Cultural Development

As a College we aim to promote learning and other opportunities that will enable students to:

Recognise the value and richness of cultural diversity in Britain and how this has influenced individuals and society.
Develop an understanding of their social and cultural environment.
Develop an understanding of Britain's national, European, Commonwealth and global identity.
Experience opportunities to appreciate the extraordinary vibrancy of Britain's cultural life and to become confident in exploring serious cultural ideas.

Experience opportunities to appreciate serious music and drama and to be capable of approaching minority cultural interests without fear or prejudice.

Monitoring and Success Criteria

1. SMSC delivery will be evident in Schemes of Work and classroom practice.
2. SMSC delivery will be evident in assessing the range of Wymondham Life activities and other clubs and societies across the College.
3. SMSC delivery will be evident in the scale of student participation in leadership and service roles across the College.
4. SMSC delivery will be evident in the range of visitors to the College who engage with students and the students' responses.
5. SMSC delivery will be evident through students' feedback on their lives at the College.
6. 6. SMSC delivery will be evident in the standard of student's conduct and interaction informally with each other within lessons and in their wider lives at the College.
7. SMSC delivery will be evident in the quality of relationships between students and the adults in their lives at the College.

The policy will be audited annually.