

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development at Mapledown

Introduction

SMSC is a broad concept, representing the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education of pupils across all aspects of school life. It is the over-arching umbrella that encompasses personal development across the whole curriculum.

OFSTED states that SMSC 'requires schools to think about the kind of people we aspire to be, the kind of world we aspire to create, and the kind of education we aspire to provide'.

At Mapledown, SMSC is at the heart of school life, embedded through the curriculum, extra-curricular learning, assemblies and our interactions with each other during the school day. SMSC plays a significant part in pupils' happiness, learning and achievement. At Mapledown, we pride ourselves in providing a school environment that celebrates our entire community and recognises our differences in a positive way.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT AT MAPLEDOWN SCHOOL

- giving pupils the opportunity to explore values and beliefs, including religious beliefs, and how they impact on peoples' lives;
- giving pupils the opportunity to understand human feelings and emotions, how they impact on people and how an understanding of them can be helpful;
- developing an ethos within which everyone can grow and flourish, respect others and be respected;
- accommodating difference and respecting the integrity of individuals;
- encouraging a sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them;
- use of imagination and creativity in their learning.

MORAL DEVELOPMENT AT MAPLEDOWN SCHOOL

- enabling pupils to recognise the difference between right and wrong, using this as a basis for positive behaviour which is promoted consistently through all aspects of the school;
- helping pupils to understand the consequences of their behaviour and actions;
- developing an open and safe learning environment in which children can express their views and practise moral decision-making;
- promoting positive behaviour, values and expectations;
- modelling, through the quality of relationships and interactions, fairness, integrity, respect for others and resolution of conflict.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AT MAPLEDOWN SCHOOL

- engaging with the 'British values' of democracy, the rule of law, liberty, respect and tolerance
- using of a range of social skills in different contexts, for example co-operating, working and socialising with other pupils
- fostering a sense of community, with common, inclusive values;
- providing positive collective experiences – for example, through assemblies, team activities, school trips, whole school events and competitions;
- helping pupils to develop personal qualities which are valued in society, for example, thoughtfulness, honesty, respect for difference, moral principles, independence, inter-dependence and self-respect;
- providing opportunities for engaging in the democratic process and participating in community life e.g. school council;
- helping others through volunteering and raising money for charity;
- providing positive and effective links with the world of work and the wider community.

CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AT MAPLEDOWN SCHOOL

- appreciating and exploring the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped our own heritage and that of others
- valuing the things we share in common across cultural, religious, ethnic communities;
- promoting racial, religious and other forms of equality;
- recognising and celebrating the different cultures represented in the school and wider community;
- willingness to participate in and respond positively to artistic, musical, sporting and cultural opportunities.

Examples of SMSC at Mapledown School

Spiritual	Social
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Our wider community: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Singing carols at our local Tesco's - Taking part in events with our local mainstream schools, including performing (Copthall and Whitefield secondary schools) - Visit to local community facilities ● Collective assemblies and curriculum topics (Remembrance, Harvest, etc) ● Daily acts of collective worship in class ● Appreciation of our natural world <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Making bird feeders and watching birds - Gardening projects throughout the school - Appreciation of the changing seasons - Learning about key environmental issues (pollution, global warming) ● Caring for the individual <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Treating everyone with respect - Facilitating choices and independence - Celebration of birthday within class and during assemblies - Personalised therapies including music, rebound, OT and physio ● Celebrating achievement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Class reward systems (star of the day) - Weekly Achievement certificates - Ongoing daily praise - Display of pupils' work ● RE curriculum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School trips <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gallery and museum visits - Trips to Woburn safari park, Aldenham country park, and Paradise Wildlife ● Extra curricular activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discos - Lunchtime clubs ● Engaging with the community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Weekly visits to leisure centres and swimming pools - Using community facilities (shops and cafes) - Links with Related Argent community (facilities and events) ● Working together <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Learning to work in groups across zones and beyond - Playing and having fun - School council ● Developing independence ● Parents within the school <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parents coffee mornings and workshops - Training courses ● Charity events - Comic relief, MacMillan, etc
Moral	Cultural
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fundraising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FOM (Friends of Mapledown) subsidise enterprise events led by pupils for the summer fair - Fundraising for charity ● Respecting each other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Morning greetings and circle time - Celebrating multi modal communication/AAC strategies used across the school - Class rules - Individualised positive behaviour plans - Co-operative play/recreational lea ● Personalised strategies ● Helping in class ● Visits from local professionals ● PSHE and RE curriculum lessons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Celebrating national and international events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - World cups - Olympics - Celebrations such as Christmas, Chinese new year, etc ● School cultural events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - World book day/week - Sports day - School displays - Visiting musician and theatre groups ● School and classes cultural celebrations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Literacy - multi cultural stories and books - Humanities curriculum - Celebrations of all similarities and differences - Study of different cultures within our school and within the UK