

# Education

## SMSC and British Values Policy

### 1. Our Values Statement

We promote 'British Values' through our spiritual, moral, social and cultural education which permeates through the school's curriculum and supports the development of the 'whole child'.

We recognise that such development is most successful when those values and attitudes are promoted by all the staff and provide a model of behaviour for our pupils.

The curriculum in all phases offers broad and balanced opportunities.

### 2. British Values

'British Values' have been identified as:

## **Democracy:**

The ability to understand and communicate are the most important areas of learning. We ensure that pupils are given a 'voice' to communicate. These skills are also developed throughout Key Stage 3 as part of the Communication curriculum.

We empower our pupils by giving them opportunities to make choices about the things that they believe to be important. By valuing each 'voice' and by listening and responding to that voice we demonstrate that we support democracy and liberty.

We have an active school council, called the Snowfields Squad, that meet collectively across both colleges. Student voice is also captured through trust surveys.

## **Rule of Law:**

We involve pupils in setting codes of behaviour; helping pupils to make decisions and choices that are acceptable to the school community and society at large.

Pupils are helped to learn to manage their behaviour and take responsibility for their actions. Staff are committed to providing a personalised approach to a consistent and predictable environment within the school and beyond through Snowfields Standards. We can help some pupils to understand the connection between actions and consequences. This type of environment enables pupils to feel safe and secure; this in turn, promotes the optimum conditions for learning to take place.

We further develop these skills through the SPHERE (social, personal, health, emotional, relationships and education) Faculty curriculum, helping students to

make informed decisions and developing their understanding of the protected characteristics and the Equality Act (2010).

### **Individual Liberty:**

Pupils are encouraged to become good and valued citizens. We do this by supporting each pupil to become as independent as possible. We endeavour to demonstrate that everyone has rights evidenced through Snowfields Academy being awarded The Rights Respecting Schools Award, and through the Core Value of Be Kind.

Some pupils will be able to take responsibility for particular roles and to understand that with certain rights comes a level of responsibility. Learning to do things independently is an important part of learning to understand yourself. We support others by participating in charitable events such as, Red Nose Day/Comic Relief and Children in Need. We believe that engendering a caring and helpful environment and to be independent can boost and nurture a healthy self-esteem.

### **Mutual Respect:**

Snowfields Academy provides an inclusive environment where activities are always positively promoted on a personalised basis for each individual. Within school, pupils work with a range of people. This may include working with students from other schools, coaches, external agencies, etc. The curriculum is personalised and promotes community cohesion with opportunities for students to go into the community to meet with a range of people in a variety of situations which include: sports events, community events and shared participation with other schools/colleges.

## **Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs:**

We are part of a school and local community where each person is respected and valued equally without regard to ability, gender, faith, heritage or race.

Cultural appreciation and development forms part of our curriculum. We place great emphasis on providing encounters and participation in events and celebrations to broaden all pupils' experiences and awareness of others.

Our Personal Development Calendar events help all pupils to find out about themselves and others linking their lives to the communities in which they belong. The themes cover areas such as: friendships, helping others and celebrations from a range of faiths and world events. As well as part of the SPHERE Faculty curriculum.

Pupils are encouraged to experience British Culture, as well as others, through our Individuals and Societies curriculum themes. For example, pupils have visited many local places. As a school, we take part in sporting activities which helps to instil 'fair play' and engender a 'team spirit'.

Although some of our pupils may find it difficult to articulate their feelings and concerns; staff are attuned to changes in demeanour and well-being that may indicate anxiety. If they are concerned about a pupil our accepted practice links to the Safeguarding Policy which entrusts a duty of care to all staff to actively protect and promote the welfare of children.

The staff work closely with parents, carers and other professionals to ensure that the students at Snowfields Academy are happy, well cared for and enabled to learn the skills they need to live a fulfilling life as part of their community.

Demonstrating the academy core values of Work Hard, Be Kind, Communicate, Stay Safe and Be Happy.

### **3. Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC)**

Snowfields Academy has a strong commitment to the personal and social development of all pupils. The school vision and values, put together by all the staff, supports spiritual, moral, social and cultural characteristics in all pupils.

SMSC – Definitions

#### **Spiritual development:**

Explore beliefs and experience; respect faiths, feelings and values; enjoy learning about oneself, others and the surrounding world; use imagination and creativity; reflect.

#### **Moral development:**

Recognise right and wrong; respect the law; understand consequences; investigate moral and ethical issues; offer reasoned views.

#### **Social development:**

Use a range of social skills; participate in the local community; appreciate diverse viewpoints; participate, volunteer and cooperate; resolve conflict; engage with the 'British values' of democracy, the rule of law, liberty, respect and tolerance.

#### **Cultural development:**

Appreciate cultural influences; appreciate the role of Britain's parliamentary system; participate in culture opportunities; understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity.

In our school pupil's SMSC development is seen for example in:

- Taking part in a range of activities regarding social skills
- Developing an awareness and respect for diversity
- Developing an understanding of right and wrong.
- Developing the communication skills to make choices about likes/dislikes in school then in wider community visits.
- Taking part in sporting opportunities.
- Taking part in cultural opportunities.
- Taking part in artistic opportunities.

SMSC is embedded throughout the curriculum at Snowfields Academy. This integrated approach ensures that aspects of SMSC are considered in all subject areas.

### **Impact**

In order to reflect further on the impact of all work on SMSC:

- We engage governors, families and community
- Hear our student voice through surveys and Snowfields Squad
- Observe staff and pupil interactions
- Support Social Behaviour and Emotional literacy
- Complete learning walks reflecting on resources and practices.

**Reviewed: 02/09/2023**