

Halfpenny Lane Junior, Infant and Nursery School



SMSC and British Values Policy

Reviewed: April 2018

Introduction

At Halfpenny Lane we recognise that the personal development of children, spiritually, morally, socially and culturally, plays a significant part in their ability to learn and achieve. We therefore aim to provide an education that provides them 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 the diversity and richness of the cultures.

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.

All adults will model and promote expected behaviour, treating all people as unique and valuable individuals and showing respect for children and their families.

The school community will be a place where children 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.

Children should learn to differentiate between right and wrong in as far as their actions affect other people. They will be encouraged to value themselves and others. Promoting a positive growth mind set will support children in learning to accept, understand and deal effectively with their feelings. Understanding the implications of their choices and actions on themselves and others. As well as the consequences of these actions.

Children 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 children's 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 teacher's planning decisions.

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 that a pupil's education is set within a context that is meaningful and appropriate to their age, aptitude and background.
- To ensure that children 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 children to develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.
- To enable children 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

At Halfpenny we aim to provide learning opportunities that will enable children 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.
- 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

At Halfpenny we aim to provide learning opportunities that will enable children 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.

Social Development

At Halfpenny we aim to promote opportunities that will enable children to:

- Develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.
- Learn about service in the school and wider community.
- Understand ways they can respond to difficulties in a social context.

Cultural Development

At Halfpenny aim to promote opportunities that will enable children to:

- Recognise the value and richness of cultural diversity in Britain, and how these influenced individuals and society.
- Develop an understanding of fundamental British Values (See appendix 1).
- Develop an understanding of their social and cultural environment.
- Develop an understanding of Britain's local, national, European, Commonwealth and global dimensions.

Teaching and Organisation

Development in SMSC will take place across all curriculum areas, within activities that encourage children 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 will give children opportunities to:

- Talk about personal experiences and feelings.
- Express and clarify their own ideas and beliefs.
- Speak about difficult events, e.g. 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 children to develop socially, morally, spiritually and culturally – e.g. empathy, respect, open mindedness, sensitivity, critical awareness, etc. (for comprehensive list see attached sheet).

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.
- 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.
- Children will be taught to appreciate their local environment and to develop a sense of responsibility to it.
- Links within the local community will be sought and actively encouraged.
- Links with our local Vicar will enhance the children's spiritual and moral learning.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Provision for SMSC will be monitored and reviewed on a regular basis. This will be achieved by:

- Monitoring of lesson plans and teaching and learning.
- Regular discussion at staff and governors' meetings
- Sharing of classroom work and practice.
- Audit of Collective Worship practice.
- Completion and review of SMSC grid.
- Pupil conversations.

Appendix 1

Promoting British Values in Halfpenny Lane Junior, Infant and Nursery School

The Government are keen for every school to actively promote the fundamental British Values. These values are:

1. **Democracy** - respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic process.
2. **The rule of law** - respect for the basis on which the law is made and applies in England.
- support for equality of opportunity.
3. **Individual liberty** - support and respect for the liberties of all within the law.
4. **Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs** - respect for and tolerance of different faiths and religions and other beliefs.

At Halfpenny School we promote all of the above aspects through the following systems:

Democracy

- School Council is elected by the children and has a voice in decision making.
- Our strong ethos of positive growth mind set and weekly assembly encourage all aspects of respect for Democracy and the Democratic process.
- Individual children are elected to posts of responsibility such as Class Monitors or Job Leaders.

The rule of law

Our Mission Statement reflects the principles of respecting the rule of law through:

- Children are taught to understand the principles of rules which enable a community, like a school, to work well.
- Children are aware of the impact of not following the rules - the consequences, the expectations and the boundaries in which they work in their school community.
- The children learn to understand the difference between right and wrong in all aspects of school life, throughout the day.
- There is an opportunity for children to put right what has been done wrong, wherever possible.
- Children are given opportunity to understand aspects of civil and criminal law and discuss how this might be different from some religious laws.

Individual liberty

- Children are encouraged to give their opinion and to share their ideas with due regard for the feelings of others.
- The curriculum we offer allows all individuals to 'take part' and be involved in the activity - that includes trips or visits out of school and residential visits which involve overnight stays away from home.
- We use our PSHCE lessons and aspects of Social and Emotional learning to help children to feel safe within their school and to know who to go to if they are worried or need help.
- We celebrate achievements in assemblies or through certificates or quick verbal updates with parents. Children are encouraged to be proud of their achievements in school or outside of school.
- The children have access to Learning Mentor support across each Key Stage which help them be confident that they can access support in a confidential and supportive way.
- The school encourages children to take responsibility for their behaviour and to challenge stereotypes as well as develop an anti-bullying culture.