



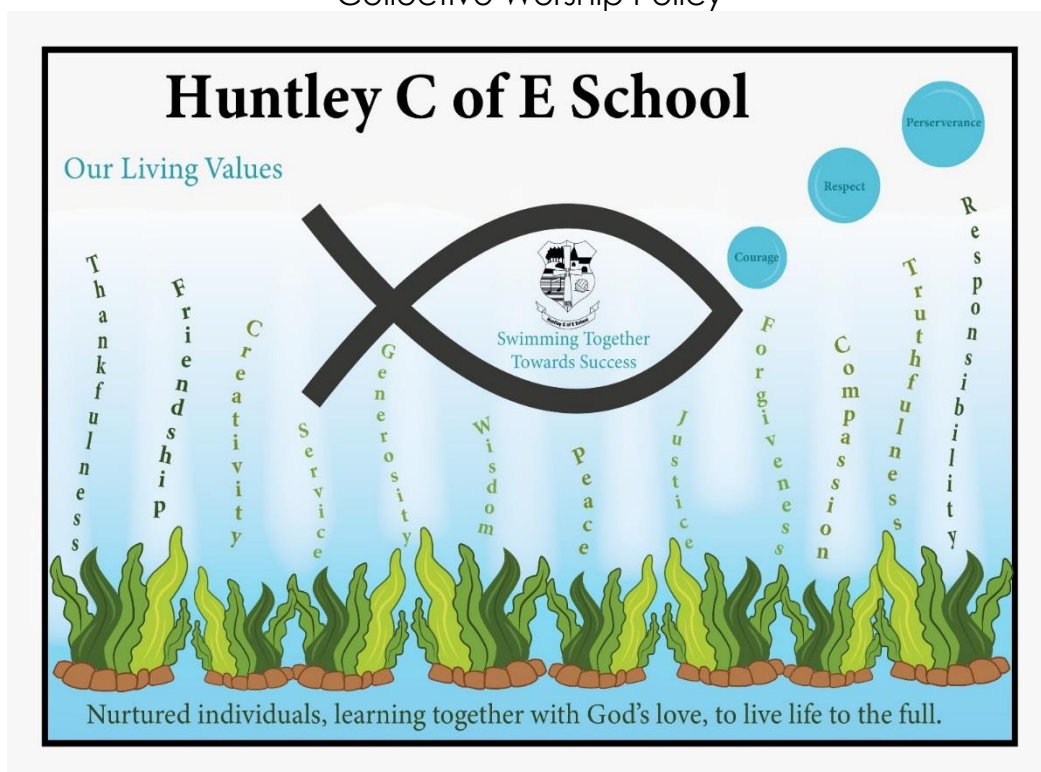
# Huntley C of E Primary School

## Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Policy

July 2022

To be read in conjunction with:

School Vision and Mission Statement  
Collective Worship Policy



Nurtured Individuals, learning together with God's love, to live life to the full.

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## Document Reviews and Amendments

<b>Amendment Date</b>	<b>Change to Document</b>	<b>Date of Approval</b>
February 2019	Scheduled review. Updated in line with new values etc	
April 2020	Change of format.	
July 2022	Review	

## Introduction

At Huntley C of E Primary School the children are encouraged to develop spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness and to begin to make personal decision and choices which reflect this development. Opportunities for the children to develop spiritually, morally, socially and culturally are provided throughout the curriculum, during learning sessions, in collective worship, at lunch time, playtime and extra-curricular activities.

## Aims & Purpose

Huntley is a Church of England school whose ethos is founded on Christian teaching and values and in particular recognises the uniqueness and worth of each individual member of the school, both children and adults alike, all of who are loved by God. With this in mind the aim of the school is to encourage children to reflect this love by learning to understand and respect the various beliefs, traditions and practices of others, both within the school and wider community. Our purpose is to ensure that pupils leave us with a maturing understanding of the experiences and values of others and a growing sense of identity based on personal values and self-worth with the community.

- **General Aims:**

- To ensure that everyone connected with the school is aware of our core and living values.
- To ensure our Golden threads are woven through the curriculum to meet the needs of our children. ( see Appendix One)
- To ensure a consistent approach to the delivery of SMSC issues throughout 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 pupils know what is expected of them and why.
- To give pupils a range of opportunities to reflect upon and discuss their beliefs, feelings and responses to personal experience.
- To enable pupils to develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.
- To enable pupils 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 social and moral responsibility.

**Spiritual development** involves the nurture of a fundamental aspect of the human condition that is not necessarily able to be expressed through the physical senses or in words. It involves relationships, with the divine for those who believe, and with other human beings and the natural world. It recognises the universal search for personal identity, the challenges of responding to difficult experiences and the need to find meaning and purpose in life.

**Moral and Social development** encourages a growing awareness that one is part of a wider society in which an individual has responsibilities towards others and may assume certain rights. It involves an understanding that obedience to laws and rules plays an important part in enabling society to function effectively for all. It encourages the acquisition of positive values and beliefs as a foundation for living and the basis for good decision making.

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**Cultural development** enhances understanding of the role of traditions, customs, religious practice and artistic expression in giving identity to groups of people. It involves exploring how these combine to create a rich diversity of experience in our community and builds increasingly harmonious relationships with others in the wider world.

### **Implementation of the SMSC policy aims**

#### **To encourage spiritual development the school will provide opportunities for children to:**

- Explore the Christian faith and begin to compare with other faiths
- Develop a sense of wonder, awe, mystery and joy
- Listen, reflect and puzzle
- Examine their own feelings, likes and dislikes, and compare these with others
- Develop personal beliefs and values and respect those of others
- Develop insight into questions of life, death and change
- Respond to situations of suffering and hardship
- Express doubt, fears and pose questions
- Express feelings, responses and insights through creative media

#### **To encourage moral and social development the school will provide opportunities for children to:**

- Develop a sense of right and wrong in a supportive environment
- Develop self-esteem and take responsibility for one's own actions
- Be aware of the needs of others and develop empathy
- Discuss the need for rules and sanctions and adherence to the school code and values
- Understand the role of forgiveness and generosity towards others
- Form judgements about appropriate courses of actions
- Work collaboratively in a group or team
- Celebrate personal achievement and the success of others
- Assume responsibility and develop early leadership skills and roles

#### **To encourage cultural development the school will provide opportunities for children to:**

- Explore a range of multi-cultural themes through literature, art, music, dance, religious education and worship
- Participate in visits to places of cultural interest, e.g. museums, theatre productions and places of worship
- To engage with artists, musicians, dancers, and religious representatives who visit the school
- Perform to an audience or speak publicly in our drama productions, religious festival or school council.
- Participate in school and community events such as Founder's day, fund-raising events and charitable activities

### **Links with the wider community**

Huntley C of E Primary School has close links to the community of Huntley village and its wider catchment villages, with very close ties to St John the Baptist Church in Huntley and Gloucester Diocese. These links foster an attitude of care and concern in pupils, who commit themselves readily to such activities as fund raising for the school's nominated charities, supporting the PTFA fundraising events, collecting harvest gifts for those in need and sponsoring a child from our link schools partnership in Kenya. The school plays an integral part in the life and celebrations of the village church, the parish and the wider church and church school community. Our vicar visits school on a regular basis to lead or share in collective worship, take part in focussed theme days and annual celebrations and regular church services.

A wide range of both volunteers and professionals are welcomed into the school from parent helpers and readers, through military veterans, members of the emergency services and representatives from a range of charities.

### **Resources**

The school provides a range of resources expressing the diversity of cultures in our school and wider community. English texts, art stimuli, music, religious artefacts and the use of a foreign language reflect the school's aims of giving access to cultural diversity in the teaching of the curriculum. Residential trips, special focus days, educational visits and specialist visitors offer particular opportunities for the aims of SMSC aims to be pursued.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The provision of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education at Huntley C of E Primary School is monitored by the Headteacher in liaison with all staff and Governing Body.

Appendix One : Our Golden Threads

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## Our Golden Threads

- To give our children experience and exposure to other cultures and the wider world
- To ensure all our children have well developed oracy skills and are confident communicators.
- To ensure all the children have a strong sense of self and have positive self- esteem