SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Next Review: November 2020
VISION

Laurence Jackson School is an exciting, vibrant learning community where we:
- Value everyone equally.
- Prepare all learners for the challenges of the 21st century.
- Celebrate talent, reliability, endeavour & achievement.
- Develop independent learning and enquiring minds.
- Promote active participation and healthy lifestyles as a Specialist Sports College.

ETHOS

Our school's ethos of 'Inspiring Excellence' is central to developing well rounded individuals who are ready to thrive in the challenges presented living in the 21st century.

We want students to be fully ready to learn, respect themselves and everyone else in the school community, be resilient when faced with challenges, be able to reflect positively on their learning and approach to school, whilst developing positive relationships with their peers and staff.

The SMSC development of our students is central to the ethos of Laurence Jackson School. Through SMSC we want to prepare students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life, developing an understanding of right and wrong, creating enduring values and helping students to be responsible, caring citizens.

This policy defines what we mean by SMSC development and outlines strategies to secure its development in all our students.
Spiritual Development

The spiritual development of pupils is shown by their:

- Ability to be reflective about their own beliefs (religious or otherwise) and perspective on life.
- Knowledge of, and respect for, different people’s faiths, feelings and values.
- Sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them.
- Use of imagination and creativity in their learning.
- Willingness to reflect on their experiences.

Laurence Jackson Schools aims to support students in developing the following characteristics:

- A respect for themselves and others.
- Awareness and understanding of their own and others’ beliefs.
- A sense of empathy with others, concern and compassion.
- An understanding of feelings and emotions, and their likely impact.
- An increasing ability to reflect and learn from their experiences.
- An ability to show courage and persistence in the defence of their aims, values, principles and beliefs.
- A set of values, principles and beliefs, which may or may not be religious, which inform their perspective on life and their patterns of behaviour.

Moral Development

The moral development of pupils is shown by their:

- Ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong and to readily apply this understanding in their own lives, recognise legal boundaries and, in so doing, respect the civil and criminal law of England.
- Understanding of the consequences of their behaviour and actions.
- Interest in investigating and offering reasoned views about moral and ethical issues and ability to understand and appreciate the viewpoints of others on these issues.

Laurence Jackson School aims to support students in developing the following characteristics:

- An ability to distinguish right from wrong.
- An ability to think through the consequences of their own and others’ actions.
- A willingness to express their views on ethical issues and personal values.
- An ability to make responsible and reasoned judgements on moral dilemmas.
- A respect for others' needs, interests and feelings, as well as their own.
- A desire to explore their own and others’ views.
• An understanding of the need to review their values and principles in light of experience.

Social Development

The social development of pupils is shown by their:

• Use of a range of social skills in different contexts, for example working and socialising with other pupils, including those from different religious, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds.
• Willingness to participate in a variety of communities and social settings, including by volunteering, cooperating well with others and being able to resolve conflicts effectively.
• Acceptance and engagement with the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs; they develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.

Laurence Jackson School aims to support students to:

• Relate well to other people’s social skills and personal qualities.
• Work successfully as a member of a group or team.
• Challenge, when necessary and in appropriate ways, the values of a group or wider community.
• Share views and opinions with others.
• Reflect on their own contribution to the wider community.
• Show respect for people, living things, property and the environment.
• Appreciate the rights and responsibilities of individuals within the school community and British society.

Cultural Development

The cultural development of pupils is shown by their:

• Understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage and that of others.
• Understanding and appreciation of the range of different cultures in the school and further afield as an essential element of their preparation for life in modern Britain.
• Ability to recognise, and value, the things we share in common across cultural, religious, ethnic and socio-economic communities.
• Knowledge of Britain’s democratic parliamentary system and its central role in shaping our history and values, and in continuing to develop Britain.
• Willingness to participate in and respond positively to artistic, musical, sporting and cultural opportunities.
• Interest in exploring, improving understanding of and showing respect for different faiths and cultural diversity and the extent to which they understand, accept and respect diversity. This is shown by their respect and attitudes towards different religious, ethnic and socio-economic groups in the local, national and global communities.

Laurence Jackson School aims to support students in developing the following characteristics:

• An ability to appreciate cultural diversity.
• To respect other people’s values and beliefs.
• To challenge racism and value race equality.
• An ability to recognise and understand their own British values.
• An understanding of the influences which have shaped their own cultural heritage.
• A celebration of human achievement in all cultures and societies.

LINKS WITH THE WIDER COMMUNITY

• Visitors and outside agencies are welcomed into our school.
• Links with the local church, local schools, British Legion and support groups are fostered.
• The school support the work of a variety of charities.
• The development of a strong home-school agreement is regarded as very important, enabling parents and staff to work in an effective partnership to support the children.
• Students will be taught to appreciate and take responsibility for their local environment.
• Visits to cultural venues such as theatres, cinemas, libraries and places of worship are actively encouraged.
• A variety of cultural trips abroad are common place in our annual calendar for all year groups.

MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLICY

• The SMSC requirements are delivered through our PSHE lessons, Votes for Schools form time activity programme, enrichment activity programmes and drop down days.
• Provision for SMSC is regularly monitored and reviewed by the SLT, teachers and student voice.
• Regular discussions are held at staff meetings.
• Staff CPD is delivered with a focus on SMSC requirements through our annual CPD calendar.
• Staff share classroom work and practice.
• The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all staff – all form tutors will be required to deliver Votes for Schools to their tutor groups once per week.
• Examples of high-quality student work is displayed around school to celebrate excellence and foster student’s pride in their work.