

The Abbey
SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Policy Statement

The school recognizes its responsibility in developing pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness.

2. Definition

Spiritually in the non-material element of a human being, acquiring a sense of identity, self-worth, personal insight, meaning and purpose, within a system that gives opportunities to explore values and beliefs, including religious beliefs, and the way they affect people's lives.

Morally, including their ability to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the law.

Socially, through an ability to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and understand how they can contribute to community life, and through a broad, general knowledge of public institutions and services in England.

Culturally by acquiring an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures in a way that promotes tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions.

(Information provided by the Independent Schools' Inspectorate.)

3. Procedure

- 3.1 All subjects must maximize SMSC opportunities so that pupils develop in these aspects. Certain subjects, e.g. Religious Education and Personal, Social, Health Education, will naturally cover these themes. However, teachers responsible for subjects should ensure that their subject supports SMSC development as much as possible.
- 3.2 Pupils attend regular assemblies in the school hall and St Mary's Church. Local members of clergy and the School Chaplain regularly lead assemblies. Abbey assemblies follow a weekly theme (see School Assemblies and Services Policy).
- 3.3 Each school term finishes with a service at St Mary's Church or the School Chapel.
- 3.4 The school is actively involved in supporting a range of charities. Pupils will learn about the work of a charity before a collection for that charity takes place. Often the charities provide speakers who attend assemblies.
- 3.5 The school rules underpin the ethos of the school community and follow the themes of good manners, punctuality, health and safety, possessions and appearance. The reasons behind the rules are explained to the pupils at the beginning of the year.
- 3.6 The system of Leaders allows all Year 6 pupils the opportunity to lead the school as the system rotates between the four houses. Leaders are expected to be responsible, helpful and to use their initiative.

- 3.7 The European Initiatives programme allows pupils to learn about other cultures through exchange visits to other countries (Estonia and Spain) and to meet teachers from other countries (Commenius Project).
- 3.8 Pupils participate in local and national competitions which promote awareness of the Arts.
- 3.9 The school's programme of extra curricular activities promote SMSC development in areas such as chess, art clubs and music clubs.

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