



# Celebrating students' Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development at



## The Federation of Holy Trinity Church of England Schools



## About this document

This document outlines The Federation of Holy Trinity Church of England Schools' wide-ranging SMSC provision. It showcases the many curriculum-based and extra-curricular activities which have already helped develop our students as spiritual, moral, social and cultural learners. It also highlights the exciting SMSC-based teaching, learning and extra-curricular activities we plan and deliver.

## What is SMSC?

SMSC is about developing the whole person. As our pupils move through the school, we are committed at The Federation of Holy Trinity Church of England Schools, to developing not only their academic standards and levels of achievement, but also their spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness. We aim to provide opportunities for our children to form their own identity, sense of place and purpose and giving them the confidence to question and discover who they are in the world and face the exciting challenges that lie ahead. Being a church school adds another dimension to our SMSC provision as our Christian ethos and distinctiveness permeates all aspects of school life and underpins our values and mission.

### Spiritual

- We give students the opportunity to explore values and beliefs, including religious beliefs, and the way in which they affect people's lives.
- We give students the opportunity to understand human feelings and emotions, the way they affect people and how an understanding of them can be helpful.
- We encourage students to relate their learning to a wider frame of reference- for example, asking 'why?' 'how?' and 'where?' as well as 'what?'.

### Moral

- We provide a clear moral code as a basis for behaviour which is promoted consistently through all aspects of the school through our behavior policy.
- We promote measures to prevent discrimination on the basis of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age and other criteria.
- We encourage students to take responsibility for their actions. For example, respect for property, care of the environment, and developing codes of behaviour.
- We provide models of moral development through our curriculum and embedded into our acts of Collective Worship.







### Social

- We foster a sense of community, with common, inclusive values which ensure that everyone, irrespective of ethnic origin, nationality, gender, ability, sexual orientation and religion can flourish.
- We help students develop personal qualities which are valued in a society, for example, thoughtfulness, honesty, respect for difference, moral principles, independence, interdependence self-respect.
- We provide a conceptual and linguistic framework within the curriculum, which will help the children to consider and understand social issues.
- We encourage students to work together co-operatively.




### Cultural

- We provide opportunities for students to explore their own cultural assumptions and values.
- We present authentic accounts of the attitudes, values and traditions of diverse cultures.
- We extend students' knowledge and use of cultural imagery and language, recognising and nurturing particular gifts and talents.
- We provide opportunities for students to participate in literature, drama, music, art and craft based activities.

SMSC permeates the curriculum and approaches to teaching and learning through the whole school ethos. Below is a snapshot of the wide ranging SMSC provision at The Federation of Holy Trinity Church of England Schools. The school's weekly newsletter and website also capture SMSC in action.

| Activity  |   | S | M | S | C |
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|    | Bethel Church – regular visits to and from Bethel Church, combined with Junior Church after school club. Julianna and the Bethel team root their collective worship firmly in the bible and encourages reflection, thoughtfulness and an opportunity to explore beliefs and the way they affect people's lives.   | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|    | Great British Summertime event. Pupils, families and the wider community join us in school for a day of fun. This involves the local area and lots of opportunity to work together, play together and value each other. House Teams join together in a spirit of cohesion as part of this day and they are encouraged to be thankful for our local area, each other and the community. The children also enjoy circus workshops where they develop new skills alongside their classes and house teams.                  |   | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|   | The school choir visits local nursing homes at Christmas to sing carols. The children are encouraged to actively engage with residents in a respectful and caring way. The choir now consists of a more even ratio of boys to girls and they enjoy meeting with Mrs Trigg and Mrs Calland-Brooke on a weekly basis. Some of the older pupils have even taken on the role of lead choristers. Throughout the year, the choir have enjoyed performing during weekly Collective Worship and at Holy Trinity Church events. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |   |
|  | The whole school, parents, friends and the community join members of the 21 Engineer Regiment to lay a wreath in remembrance of those who have fallen. This is very poignant within our school because of our service pupil population. The community join us and the service is held at the memorial in the local park. The Last Post is played by pupils from Ripon Grammar School and the Padre leads the service.   | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|  | As part of the curriculum, children get the opportunity to visit different places of worship. Children also frequently visit the Cathedral, Holy Trinity Church and Bethel Church. As part of LDLT, we are currently looking to establish a link with a culturally diverse school. We are hoping that this link will provide students with an opportunity to visit each other's schools, communities and places of worship.   |   |   | ✓ | ✓ |
|  | When studying different topics as part of Learning Means The World, they relish the opportunity to discover more about different faiths and cultures. The children spent an enjoyable morning with a dance instructor where they learnt how to tell stories and express themselves through Indian dance. Developing on this, Year 6 were given the opportunity to link dance with storytelling and expressive writing!  | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |



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|    | Within our school, Collective Worship is delivered by a wide range of people. As a school, we feel that this is really important to involve the Padre, members of staff and the church including the Youth Leader, Matt. As a lot of our children's families are in the forces, making links through the Padre particularly valuable.  | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|    | We encourage children to take responsibility at school and in the community. This includes being involved with community groups and charities. Parents and children contribute to the Ripon food bank and are particularly generous at Christmas as we support the shoe box appeal as well as local charities.   |   | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|    | Throughout the year, children and staff share in services in the local churches and Ripon Cathedral. This includes Christmas, Easter, Harvest, Ascension and end of year services. In addition, the school contributes to special services at Ripon Cathedral such as 'return from deployment' services where the soldiers of our local regiment are welcomed back. This is a very spiritual experience for both children and staff. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|  | Every Friday we celebrate the children, their learning in school and their achievements outside of school in an assembly where the community join us.  | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|  | Demonstrating our values through sport plays a big part at Trinity. In addition to competing in a wide range of tournaments, there are annual staff versus children competitions. Members of the community and parents are warmly invited to attend and participate.   |   | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|  | As a school and for the benefit of the children we take part in a wide range of activities beyond the school building. This includes taking part in the Ripon Pancake Race, Help for Heroes events, Armed Forces Day and trips and visits to cultural events   | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|  | Holy Trinity children love to discuss current issues and are very articulate when conveying their thoughts, opinions and feelings. This has been reflected when they have participated in debating competitions across North Yorkshire.  |   | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

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|    | <p>E-Safety is always on our minds and, in addition to regular updates in the newsletter and a dedicated website page, we invite the PCSOs in to school. The children are given e-safety lessons and this is then followed up with training for parents.</p> <p>Parents are regularly in school for information evenings such as maths, science, reading, SATs and other events.</p>             |   | ✓ | ✓ |   |
|    | <p>The place of music in the school and especially in church services is a very important part of school life.</p> <p>Children's performances often bring adults to tears as they capture the essence of spirituality – these are very emotional experiences and the feedback from visitors always recognises this.</p>  | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|    | <p>All children in school attend residential visits in Y6. All problems are overcome and children in school with significant disabilities always attend. The school finds a way to overcome any issue; all staff have the opportunity to attend and they do. These visits change children and the experiences they afford build social resilience as well as self-awareness and self-esteem.</p> |   | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|   | <p>Transition activities prepare children who are due to start Reception and Y3. There are also planned activities for those making transition from Y6 to Y7. This includes children attending local high schools. Where children are particularly vulnerable, additional accompanied visits to schools are provided.</p>  |   |   | ✓ | ✓ |
|  | <p>Our church school ethos is very important. Children are encouraged to use the Thinking Area within their classroom as a place for quiet contemplation and prayer. Throughout the year, we explore different Christian Values which are reflected in the Thinking Areas. The children also have the opportunity to use the outdoor Thinking Space during play time.</p>                        | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|  | <p>The school gets involved in national charity days such as Sport Relief and Children in Need. Assemblies and curriculum content linked to the stories behind the fundraising are planned and shared.</p> <p>Children, staff, parents and the community share these events and the school has a fantastic fundraising record through sponsored walks and bake sales.</p>                        | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|  | <p>Many parents are deployed on active service. School runs its own heroes club and members of the armed services, the local Service Pupils' Champion and clergy come together in school to support the children and parents left behind. The children are encouraged to support each other and service and non service pupils work together on projects to promote understanding and care.</p>  | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

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|   | The school's SENCO and staff members support families of children with autism and other needs. This is achieved through meetings and establishing strong relationships. The children are also offered support and alternative provision during the school day. Some children can choose to attend Hub Club during lunchtime to help them manage their feelings. |   | ✓ | ✓ |   |
|   | The children are taught PSHE through stand alone lessons and across the curriculum. There is an annual PSHE day where children have the opportunity to learn more about themselves, others and develop their life skills.   |   | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|   | Themed days in the curriculum such as 'World Book Day', 'RE' and 'Science' provide opportunities for children to learn together and share their learning beyond the classroom.  |   | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|  | As a school, we achieved a wellbeing award. To launch this and raise children's awareness, the wellbeing team organised a wellbeing day. This included physical activity, Lego building and even a visit from a therapy dog!  | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

### What impact have we had on SMSC?

#### Spiritual

The children have a sense of enjoyment and curiosity in learning about themselves, others and the world around them. This is evident in their use of imagination, creativity and the way they reflect on their own experiences. The children have the confidence to share and contribute their ideas in class and during Collective Worship.

#### Moral

The children understand that there are consequences for their actions and they accept responsibility for when they have made the wrong choices. Inevitably, children will make mistakes so they need the opportunity to reflect on their behaviour; this is done during restorative conversations with staff. Pupils have a voice in our school, whether that be through a role or responsibility. For example, they may be elected as a Pupil Governor or Worship Warrior and therefore regularly meet with members of staff to share ideas and opinions. Children make suggestions about which charities they would like to support and organise their own fund raising events for various causes.

#### Social

Staff and pupils frequently interact outside of the classroom environment, this develops relationships and allows children to gain a sense of responsibility and ownership over their roles in the school. Holy Trinity have an inclusive approach and support individual children's needs. The children are welcoming of school visitors and pupils are keen to invite them into the classrooms to share their learning. The school has a house system so every child and member of staff belongs to one of four houses. This encourages the

children to interact across year groups and enjoy healthy competition through events like Sports Day. Children represent their houses and often lead aspects of Collective Worship.

#### Cultural

The children at Holy Trinity have a good understanding of the importance of being involved in the community. The activities the children participate in range from choir, art projects and sports, allowing them to represent the school, creating a well-rounded person through holistic development. The children have a very accepting attitude and understanding of the world and are open to other people's opinions. Holy Trinity tries to provide the pupils with wider experiences with the aim of increasing their acceptance and understanding of the world through opportunities such as Indian dance lessons and a chance to engage with those of a different faith.