



*Saint Joseph's*  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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# **SMSC Curriculum Policy**

Version 1.2 – March 2025

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
CHURCH ROAD  
LAVERSTOCK  
SALISBURY  
SP1 1QY



Success Criteria:		
<b>Context/Aim:</b> St Joseph's is a Catholic school, proud of being for those of all faiths and none; our Catholic ethos is underpinned by our key values that all members of the community know and respect. The role of a Catholic school is not only to ensure academic success but also ensure that each learner leaves us with an understanding of what it is to be truly human: this can only be achieved through the development of the whole child. This has to be underpinned by an absolute commitment to each child's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.		
Monitoring Procedures:		
<b>By Whom:</b> Governors' Academic Committee	<b>When:</b> Biennially	<b>How:</b> Reports to the Academic Committee annually
Evaluation:		
<b>By Whom:</b> Mrs F. Nobis (Assistant Head teacher) and the Academic Governors Committee	<b>When:</b> Biennially	<b>How:</b> SLT and the Academic Committee to review Policy

Revision History:			
Version	Approved and Ratified	Review Date	Additional Notes
V 1.2	March 2025	March 2027	Minor updates
V 1.1	October 2023	October 2025	Incorporated TenTen RSHE Programme
V 1.0	October 2021	October 2023	

Vision Statement:
<p><b>With God's love and inspiration, we aspire and achieve excellence.</b></p> <p><b>Vision:</b> St. Joseph's aspires to be an exceptional, inclusive Catholic school where every individual feels a <b>profound sense of belonging and recognises their spiritual gifts</b>. In a safe, trusting, and respectful environment, everyone can thrive.</p> <p>The St Joseph's family is dedicated to providing and receiving <b>outstanding educational opportunities, enabling each member to achieve excellent progress and outcomes</b> in every aspect of school life to ensure the highest level of academic results. We are committed to nurturing God-given talents and encouraging everyone to reach their full potential, fostering spiritual and moral character development.</p>



<b>National Policies and guidance/courses referred to and incorporated into SJCS Policy:</b>	
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<b>Document/Course Title:</b>	<b>Document/Course Date:</b>
School Inspection Handbook	Updated 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2023

<b>Other SJCS Policies that relate to this Policy:</b>
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Curriculum Policy
Teaching and Learning Policy
Behaviour Policy
CEIAG & PSHE Policy
RSE Policy





# SMSC Curriculum Policy

## Objectives

This policy is designed to help support Governors, staff, parents/carers and pupils with regard to the responsibility we all hold in ensuring that the next generation leave our school supported in their ability to reflect upon their own beliefs; know and respect the beliefs of others; understand right from wrong; contribute to the communities they are part of and also appreciate and understand the multi-cultural nature of Britain today and how they can contribute positively.

The development of SMSC therefore will be delivered through all aspects of school life; the curriculum; assemblies; the PSHE and CEIAG programme, extra-curricular activities (such as Duke of Edinburgh, sports and academic clubs and school trips); wellbeing initiatives (such as working with Wiltshire Wildlife) and individual themed events (e.g. International Day).

## Responsibilities

With regard to SMSC, the school will ensure that:

Spiritually, pupils will:

- Be taught to be reflective about their own faith and values – this happens in assemblies, form times and RE lessons
- Gain knowledge and understanding of other faiths, beliefs, values and feelings. If a pupil asks a question about a faith that the teacher is not an expert on, an answer will be appropriately researched and given - the RE curriculum consists of modules exploring other faiths throughout KS3 & 4
- Be encouraged to develop a sense of fascination about the world around them
- be supported to develop a willingness to reflect on their experiences
- Be offered an opportunity to explore their faith by attending a retreat

Morally, pupils will:

- Be able to further develop their ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong and be able to apply this to situations in their own lives



- Know and understand the laws of England and Wales and how they apply to them – this is covered in many curriculum areas and also explicitly in PSHE
- Be encouraged to reflect upon the consequences of their behaviour and actions – our behaviour policy promotes and encourages reflection on choices made
- Develop an ability to debate moral and ethical issues, understanding that other views are to be listened to in a culture of tolerance – the RE and PHSE curriculum offerings provide multiple opportunities for such issues to be debated and discussed

Socially, pupils will:

- Continue to develop their social skills so that they work and socialise with other pupils from different backgrounds, including those of different religious or socio-economic backgrounds
- Be encouraged to volunteer in our school community or with outside agencies that will support others in our community or elsewhere (e.g. Alabare, Trussel Trust and other national and international charities)
- Know, understand, and accept the key British values as taught in PSHE and embraced across the curriculum
- Develop communication skills and attitudes of interest, engagement, and tolerance so that they are equipped to play a full and positive part in the life of this county or wherever they choose to settle
- Involvement in enrichment days and also the Duke of Edinburgh Award offers pupils a chance to build an awareness of our local community and also make positive contributions to the local area.

Culturally, pupils will:

- Develop their appreciation and understanding of their own cultural heritage and that of others within our community; this will lead to a development in understanding the nature of modern Britain
- Build upon their understanding of the common values shared across societies, religions and cultures
- Know and understand the development of Britain's democratic parliamentary system and how it has shaped our history and values

Catholic schools by nature should characterise the dignity of each individual inside and outside the community. Our SMSC values, promoted across the curriculum will support this.

Pupils are expected to:

- Develop reflective practice with regard to their faith and belief, and that of others
- Embrace the opportunities given to learn about other faiths, beliefs and cultures



- Contribute positively to discussions in RE; PSHE; and other subjects that tackle moral and ethical issues
- Contribute positively to discussions in History, Sociology and other subjects about our development as a multi-cultural nation and how many nations and states have contributed to this
- Ask questions when they are interested or unsure and wish to know more
- Embrace our many backgrounds and contribute positively to our community

The Parents/Carers will:

- Support the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of their child at home in as many ways as possible
- Support the learning of their child with regard to SMSC by sharing ideas and listening to those of their child
- Support the development of a moral sense of right and wrong in their child
- Recognise that the school and home working together will aid the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of their child and our community

## Consultation and Review

The policy will be reviewed biennially. In school, staff will be engaged in discussion about the policy and its values. The views of parents, staff and governors regarding the content or operation of this policy should be submitted to the Headmaster.