



St. John Fisher

CATHOLIC COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

SOCIAL, MORAL, SPIRITUAL AND CULTURAL POLICY

The Mission Statement:

'St. John Fisher Catholic Comprehensive School inspires students, spiritually and educationally, forming them through Faith so they can achieve their aspirations and contribute to their community.'

Date of Review:	January 2025
Date of Ratification:	3 rd February 2025
Date of Next Review:	January 2027
Chair of Governors:	Mr. O. McColgan
Policy Approving Body:	Catholic Mission and Ethos Committee
Policy Owner:	Mrs. L. Bennett
Statutorily Published on Website:	No

SMSC Policy

As a Catholic school our purpose is to ensure all our students know God and that their education is delivered through the teaching of the framework of the Catholic faith, however, through our Religious Education Curriculum, our PSHE Curriculum, Assembly Programme and our annual Culture and Diversity Day , we encourage our students to explore other religions to allow them to be reflective of their own beliefs and beliefs of others.

At St John Fisher Catholic Secondary School, we recognise that the personal development of pupils, spiritually, morally, socially, and culturally (SMSC) plays a significant part in their ability to learn and achieve. SMSC development is at the heart of the school curriculum and every student's learning. Through our broad and balanced curriculum and praise and reward programme, students are provided with opportunities to be passionate, to take ownership of their learning and to be proud of their achievements.

We promote British Values through SMSC which will help St John Fisher students develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully so that they can achieve their aspirations and contribute to their community positively. The diversity of our school regarding other cultures and spiritual traditions are recognised, and students are given access to alternative views. The ethos of the school is of great importance, and we seek to create an atmosphere of love and respect, among all in our school and wider community. Through living out our school mission statement, "St John Fisher Catholic Comprehensive School inspires students, spiritually and educationally forming them through Faith, so that they can achieve their aspirations and contribute to their community" our students celebrate fundamental British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those with no faith.

We provide an environment which is both secure and stimulating within which everyone is appreciated and valued and are happy to give their best. The school encourages students to develop resilience and encourages students to have a voice, through different avenues, which will grow through making choices and holding to the choices that they have made.

Our Aims

- To ensure that everyone connected with the school is aware of our values and 5 Respects (respect for God, respect for Self, respect for others, respect for learning and respect for the environment)
- To ensure a consistent approach to the delivery of SMSC through the curriculum and the general life of the school.
- To ensure that a student's education is set within a context that is meaningful and appropriate to their age, aptitude, and background.
- To ensure that students know what is expected of them and why.
- To give each student a range of opportunities to reflect and discuss their beliefs, feelings, and responses to personal experience.

- To enable students to develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.
- To enable students to develop an understanding of their social and cultural environment and an appreciation of the many cultures that now enrich our society but especially the St John Fisher community.

Spiritual Development

Students will have the ability to be reflective about their own beliefs, religious or otherwise, that informs their perspective on life and their interest in and respect for different people's faiths, feelings and values. Students will have a sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others, and the world around them. Students will use imagination and creativity in their learning and show a willingness to reflect on their experiences. Students will apply the 5 Respects to their spiritual development

Moral Development:

Students will have the 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. Students will understand the consequences of their behaviour and actions. Students will show an 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. Students will apply the 5 Respects to their moral development

Social Development

Students will use 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. Students will display a 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. Students will show an 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. Students will live out the school mission statement in their everyday actions by supporting the 5 Respects.

Cultural Development

Students will have an understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage and those of others. Students will have an understanding and appreciation of the range of different cultures within school and further afield as an essential element of their preparation for life in modern Britain. Students will display knowledge of Britain's democratic parliamentary system and its central role in shaping our history and values, and in continuing to develop Britain. Students will display a willingness to participate in and respond positively to artistic, musical, sporting, and cultural

opportunities, particularly through our extra-curricular programme. Students will have an interest in exploring, improving understanding of and showing respect for different faiths and cultural diversity and the extent to which they understand, accept, respect, and celebrate diversity, as shown by their tolerance and attitudes towards different religious, ethnic and socio-economic groups in the local, national, and global communities. Students will apply the 5 Respects to their cultural development

British Values

Students will develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem, and self-confidence. Students will be able to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England. Students will be able to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely. Students will have a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England. They will have further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling students to acquire an appreciation for and respect for their own and other cultures. Students will show respect for other people, and respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England. Students will apply the 5 Respects to understanding British values

Teaching and Learning

Development in SMSC will take place across all curriculum areas, within activities that encourage students to recognise the spiritual dimension of their learning, reflect on the significance of what they are learning, and to recognise any challenges that there may be to their own attitude and lifestyle. All curriculum areas will seek to illustrate and use examples drawn from as wide a range of cultural contexts as possible. All curriculum areas will embed the 5 Respects which underpin the values and ethos of St John Fisher School

PSHE/ Citizenship Curriculum , Assembly Programme, and Curriculum Focus Days will give students opportunities to:

- Talk about personal experiences and feelings.
- Express and clarify their own ideas and beliefs.
- Speak about difficult events, e.g. bullying, etc.
- Share thoughts and feelings with other people.
- Explore relationships with friends/family/others.
- Consider others needs and behaviour.
- Show empathy.
- Develop self-esteem and a respect for others.
- Develop a sense of belonging.

- Develop the skills and attitudes that enable students to develop socially, morally, spiritually and culturally – e.g. empathy, respect, open mindedness, sensitivity, critical awareness,

Curriculum areas provide opportunities for our students to:

- Listen and talk to each other.
- Learn an awareness of treating all as equals
- Agree and disagree.
- Work co-operatively and collaboratively.
- Embed the school's values and 5 respects

Extra-Curricular Activities

SMSC is also enriched through a wide range of extra-curricular activities at St John Fisher (Sport, Music and Choir, Creative Clubs) which provide opportunities for SMSC and for inspiring pupils to broaden their experience and horizons.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Provision for SMSC is monitored and reviewed on a regular basis. This is achieved by:

- Student Voice
- Parent Voice
- Scrutiny of student exercise books
- Lesson observations
- Subject curriculum- planning and provision
- Headteacher and Governor report
- Staff CPD