

LIPA
SIXTH FORM
COLLEGE

Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural (SMSC) Policy

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Document Version History

Version	Date	Ref	Change Summary
1.0	August 2016		New Policy.
1.1	August 2018		Reviewed.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Development Policy

Introduction

We recognise that the personal development of students, spiritually, morally, socially and culturally, plays a significant part in their ability to learn and achieve.

We therefore aim to provide an education that provides students with opportunities to explore and develop their own values and beliefs, spiritual awareness, high standards of personal behaviour, a positive caring attitude towards other people, an understanding of their social and cultural traditions and an appreciation of the diversity and richness of other cultures. This is a whole organisation issue.

All curriculum areas have a contribution to make to the young person's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and opportunities for this will be planned in each area of the curriculum.

The integrity and spirituality of students from all faith backgrounds will be respected and explored. The diversity of spiritual traditions will be recognised, and students will be given access to a range of alternative views.

Adults will model and promote expected behaviour, treating all people as unique and valuable individuals and showing respect for students and their families.

The LIPA Sixth Form College community will be a place where students can find acceptance for themselves as unique individuals.

Students should learn to differentiate between right and wrong in as far as their actions affect other people. They will be encouraged to value themselves and others.

Students should understand the need for rules and the need to abide by rules for the good of everyone. LIPA Sixth Form College and classroom rules should reflect, reiterate, promote and reward acceptable behaviour and provide opportunities to celebrate students' work and achievements in line with the sixth form's behaviour policy.

All curriculum areas should seek to use illustrations and examples drawn from as wide a range of cultural contexts as possible. This will be reflected in teachers' planning and purchasing decisions.

General Aims

- To ensure that everyone connected with the sixth form is aware of our values and principles.
- To ensure that SMSC is used to support the development of learning through the creative and performing arts.
- To ensure a consistent approach to the delivery of SMSC issues through the curriculum and the general life of the sixth form.
- To ensure that students' 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 pupil a range of opportunities to reflect upon 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 begin to develop an understanding of their social and cultural environment and an appreciation of the many cultures that now enrich our society.
- To give each student the opportunity to explore social and moral issues, and develop a sense of social and moral responsibility.
- To provide students with a wide range of enrichment opportunities

Spiritual Development

We aim to provide learning opportunities that will enable students to:

- Sustain their self-esteem in their learning experience.
- Develop their capacity for critical and independent thought.
- Foster their emotional life and express their feelings.
- Experience moments of stillness and reflection.
- Discuss their beliefs, feelings, values and responses to personal experiences.
- Form and maintain worthwhile and satisfying relationships.
- Reflect on, consider and celebrate the wonders and mysteries of life.

Moral development

We aim to provide learning opportunities that will enable students to:

- Recognise the unique value of each individual.
- Listen and respond appropriately to the views of others.
- Gain the confidence to cope with setbacks and learn from mistakes.
- Take initiative and act responsibly with consideration for others.
- Distinguish between right and wrong.
- Show respect for the environment.
- Take action for justice.
- Make informed and independent judgments.

Social Development

We aim to promote opportunities that will enable students to:

- Develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.
- Learn about service in the sixth form and wider community.
- Develop a growth mind-set.
- Learn through a wide range of enrichment opportunities.

Cultural Development

We aim to promote opportunities that will enable students to:

- Recognise, appreciate and develop their abilities in the creative and performing

arts

- Recognise the value and richness of cultural diversity in Britain, and how these influence individuals and society.
- Develop an understanding of their social and cultural environment.
- Develop an understanding of Britain's local, national, European, Commonwealth and global dimensions.

Teaching and Organisation

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 should seek illustrations and examples drawn from as wide a range of cultural contexts as possible.

Class discussions will provide students opportunities to:

- Talk about personal experiences and feelings.
- Express and clarify their own ideas and beliefs.
- Speak about difficult events, e.g. bullying, death 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, both within the Sixth Form College and within the wider community.
- Develop the skills and attitudes that enable students to develop socially, morally, spiritually and culturally — e.g. empathy, respect, open mindedness, sensitivity, and critical awareness

All curriculum areas provide opportunities to:

- Listen and talk to each other.
- Learn an awareness of treating all as equals.
- Work with different people in different contexts
- Agree and disagree.
- Work cooperatively and collaboratively.

Practical activities to develop SMSC will include:

- Working together in different groupings and situations.
- Working with a range of local cultural organizations
- Encouraging the students to behave appropriately at non-teaching times.
- Taking responsibility e.g. taking part in the student council, leading projects and committing to voluntary and fundraising activities.
- Encouraging teamwork in performance, enrichment and work experience activities.
- Showing appreciation of the performances of other students regardless of ability.

- Hearing music from different composers, cultures and genres.
- Meeting people from different cultures and countries.
- Participation in a variety of different educational visits.
- Links with the local community made through the encouragement of parental involvement in the life of the Sixth Form College.
- Participation in a wide range of live performances. (Including performances for specifically for schools and the community).
- Use of SMSC themes to explore important aspects of our heritage and other cultures.
- Studying drama, dance and music from different cultures supported by visits from practitioners and artists, and participating in workshops.
- Opportunities for the young to hear and see live performances by professional actors, dancers and musicians and LIPA HE Undergraduates.
- Opportunities to make and evaluate food from other countries.
- Opportunities in music to learn songs from different cultures and play a range of instruments.
- Studying the contributions to society that certain famous people have made from a range of cultures and genders.

Links with the wider community

Visitors are welcomed into LIPA Sixth Form College.

The development of a strong links between home and sixth form is regarded as very important, enabling parents/carers and teachers to work in an effective partnership to support the students.

Students will be taught to appreciate their local environment and to develop a sense of responsibility to it.

Monitoring and Evaluation

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

- Monitoring of teaching and learning opportunities throughout curriculum areas by SLT and subject leaders including the development of an SMSC Action plan coordinated by the Inclusion Manager
- SMSC next steps being part of the overall Sixth Form College development plan.
- Good practice in SMSC being shared with staff regularly.