



**Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural
(SMSC)
Policy Sept 2025**

Onside Education: SMSC and British Values Policy

1. Aims

At Onside Education, the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of our students sits at the heart of our mission to re-engage young people and empower their futures. Our approach is rooted in creating a safe, inclusive, and aspirational learning environment that nurtures confidence, self-worth, and a sense of belonging.

We are committed to ensuring that all students are supported to develop as resilient, thoughtful, and active citizens who can make positive contributions to their communities and to wider society. SMSC development underpins our curriculum, enrichment opportunities, behaviour ethos, and relationships throughout the setting.

We actively promote the fundamental British values of:

- **Democracy**
- **The Rule of Law**
- **Individual Liberty**
- **Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those with Different Faiths and Beliefs**

Our curriculum, wider provision, and staff ethos are designed to ensure these values are experienced, explored, and embedded throughout each student's journey with us.

2. Spiritual Development

Our aims:

- Develop students' sense of identity, purpose, and belonging.
- Encourage curiosity, creativity, reflection, and emotional awareness.
- Promote a sense of wonder, self-reflection, and appreciation for life experiences.

Our provision includes:

- Opportunities for reflection and discussion across all subjects, especially PSHE, Art, Character Education, and Enrichment.
- Engagement with nature, community, and sport to develop personal connection and meaning.
- Encouraging students to explore big questions about life, belief, and meaning.

3. Moral Development

Our aims:

- Help students distinguish right from wrong and understand the consequences of their actions.
- Foster empathy, responsibility, and fairness.
- Promote ethical understanding and respect for others' perspectives.

Our provision includes:

- Behaviour expectations based on restorative practice, fairness, and respect.
- Regular opportunities to explore moral dilemmas and decision-making through PSHE, Citizenship, and real-life contexts.
- Recognition of positive behaviour, effort, and contribution through rewards and celebration.

4. Social Development

Our aims:

- Support students to develop strong relationships and positive social skills.
- Enable students to work effectively with others and take responsibility in groups and teams.
- Encourage active citizenship, leadership, and collaboration.

Our provision includes:

- Group-based learning, sports, enrichment projects, and peer mentoring.
- Student voice structures and opportunities for student-led projects.
- Community engagement and social action opportunities.

5. Cultural Development

Our aims:

- Help students develop an understanding and appreciation of their own and others' cultural backgrounds.
- Promote awareness and respect for diversity.
- Foster pride in cultural heritage while embracing inclusivity.

Our provision includes:

- A curriculum that reflects global and British cultural contributions.
- Celebrations of festivals, traditions, and historical events.

- Enrichment activities that expose students to music, art, theatre, and literature.

6. Promoting Fundamental British Values

Through all aspects of school life, we embed the values that underpin British society:

- **Democracy:** Students engage in student voice panels, surveys, and decisions that shape provision. They learn about democratic processes through Citizenship and wider curriculum links.
- **Rule of Law:** Our clear, consistent rules and behaviour frameworks help students understand the importance of fairness, accountability, and legal boundaries.
- **Individual Liberty:** We promote freedom of expression, choice, and respect for personal identity in a supportive and safeguarded environment.
- **Mutual Respect and Tolerance:** Through our inclusive ethos, RE/PSHE curriculum, and enrichment experiences, students explore different faiths, perspectives, and cultures, developing empathy and understanding.

7. Safeguarding Against Radicalisation and Extremism

We actively protect our students from the dangers of extremism by:

- Embedding critical thinking and respectful debate across the curriculum.
- Training staff in Prevent Duty awareness.
- Supporting students to build resilience, self-worth, and a sense of belonging.

We remain vigilant to the factors that may make students vulnerable, including isolation, trauma, discrimination, or family stress. Any concerns are acted on swiftly and sensitively through our safeguarding processes.

8. Monitoring and Evaluation

The delivery and impact of SMSC and British Values are monitored through:

- Lesson observations and learning walks
- Curriculum audits and planning reviews
- Student voice feedback
- Behaviour and engagement tracking
- Staff development and training reviews

This policy is reviewed annually by the Senior Leadership Team and SMSC Coordinator to ensure it remains relevant, responsive, and aligned to national guidance and the needs of our learners.