



Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural Development Policy

This policy should be read in conjunction with other School policies (all available on the School website), particularly the Safeguarding, Positive Mental Health, Relationships and Sex Education, PSHCE, Preventing Extremism & Radicalisation, British Values, Anti-Bullying and Online Safety policies. It should also be read in conjunction with the School Aims, Ethos and Values document and the Home School Agreement.

This policy follows the guidance and advice given in the DfE publication Promoting fundamental British Values as part of SMSC in schools (2014), Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education (2025 update) and Ofsted's Education Inspection Framework (2025). Also see DfE's Character Education Guidance (November 2019).

1. Introduction

The Henrietta Barnett School (the School) puts the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of each student at the core of all that it does. The School is concerned with each students' self-knowledge, self-esteem, self-confidence, awareness and understanding of moral issues. The broad and balanced curriculum on offer enables each student to develop her ability to relate to others and to take responsibility for her behaviour and learning, as well as to reflect on her contribution to the community and develop her knowledge of public institutions and services.

2. Aims

In line with DfE guidance SMSC is 'infused' within the day to day life of the School. At School we encourage all students to develop as individuals and gain an enhanced understanding of themselves within the community of the school, within their families, within society, and that they understand their responsibilities as global citizens in the world at large. This is central to our ethos and is both reflected in, and underpinned by, our School values:

- **Authenticity:** self-knowledge and the ability to be genuine to one's personality and spirit; being credible and trustworthy; recognising these qualities in others
- **Endeavour:** striving and leading with purpose; having determination and perseverance; challenging oneself and making ambitious attempts
- **Curiosity:** pro-actively seeking knowledge and skill; being inquisitive; undertaking inquiry and research; keeping informed and aware
- **Connection:** identifying, seeking, creating and appreciating relationships and links between people, concepts and environments
- **Kindness:** demonstrating care, concern, compassion and respect for those in and beyond the school community.

The School aims for all students to develop habits of mind that include independence of thought, reflective learning and flexible thinking, and the ability to maintain an open mind and to reach a balanced judgement.

3. Practice

These aims are put into practice at School through:

- The School's ethos, policies and organisation
- A focus on the development of confidence and resilience both within and outside the curriculum
- The curriculum including PSHCE lessons (see PSHCE curriculum and policy)
- The tutorial programme, assemblies, talks and other school events that focus on SMSC topics
- Whole school celebrations and events e.g. Celebration of Achievement assembly, Cultural Diversity celebrations, Embrace concert
- The Sixth Form Life Skills Programme
- Vocal and prominent student leadership teams and opportunities including the system of elected form representatives, Whole School Council and year group/key stage councils, sixth form prefect teams, student led clubs, societies and assemblies
- Educational trips and visits, visiting speakers at weekly and termly enrichment programmes and student speakers at various events
- Links with charities and fundraising, and student run competitions and events
- Opportunities and encouragement to engage in volunteering and service to others
- Extra-curricular clubs and societies including productions and performances
- Commitment to equal opportunities, including ensuring that all students benefit equally from what the school offers

Review & Update: This policy will be reviewed every two years. It was updated in May 2026.