

Reference:	Status:	Approved By:	Date:	Revision:
BC/STC/014	Approved	Teaching & Learning Governors	25 November 2015	003

SMSC

(Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural)

POLICY

BIDEFORD COLLEGE

At Bideford College 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 the cultures.

MONITORING OF POLICY

Initially, it is the responsibility of middle leaders (HODs, HOYs) to ensure the aspects of this policy are covered within the work they do. An audit of current provision within departments and year teams must be carried out on an annual basis and shortcomings made a priority for development.

MISSION STATEMENT

Bideford College - where progress comes through learning.

Our aim is to motivate, challenge, support and enable all our students to achieve their potential and to take their place in society. This includes:

- Life and career aspirations.
- Qualifications.
- Personal skills, qualities and interests.
- Being good citizens.

GUIDELINES

All curriculum areas have a contribution to make to the student'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 other faith backgrounds will be respected and explored. The diversity of spiritual traditions will be recognised, and students will be given access to alternative views.

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

The College community will be a place where students can find acceptance for themselves as unique individuals and where forgiveness and the opportunity to start again is fundamental to the ethos of the College.

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. College and classroom rules should reflect, reiterate, promote and reward acceptable behaviour and provide opportunities to celebrate students' work and achievements.

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 teacher's planning and purchasing decisions.

GENERAL AIMS

- To ensure that everyone connected with the College is aware of our values and principles.
- To ensure a consistent approach to the delivery of SMSC issues through the curriculum and the general life of the College.
- 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 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.

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SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

At Bideford College 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

At Bideford College 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.
- Make informed and independent judgements.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

At Bideford College we aim to promote opportunities that will enable students to:

- Develop an understanding of their individual and group identity.
- Learn about service in the College and wider community.
- Understand the moral imperative for social justice and a concern for the disadvantaged.

CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

At Bideford College we aim to promote opportunities that will enable students to:

- Recognise the value and richness of cultural diversity in Britain, and how these influenced individuals and society.
- Recognise the importance of world faiths.
- 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 and spiritual contexts as possible.

Class discussions and 'circle time' 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, 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.
- Develop the skills and attitudes that enable students to develop socially, morally, spiritually and culturally e.g. empathy, respect, open mindedness, sensitivity, critical awareness, etc.

Many curriculum areas provide opportunities to:

- Listen and talk to each other.
- Learn an awareness of treating all as equals, and accepting people who are physically or mentally different.
- Agree and disagree.
- Work co-operatively and collaboratively.

Links with the wider community

- Visitors are welcomed in the College.
- We attempt wherever possible to link with local churches and also youth agencies linked with local churches.
- The development of a strong home-school link is regarded as very important, enabling parents and teachers to work in an effective partnership to support the student.
- Students will be taught to appreciate their local environment and to develop a sense of responsibility to it.

Monitoring and Evaluation

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

- Monitoring of lesson plans and 'teaching and learning' by Head of Department/Leadership Group/Principal/Governors.
- Regular discussion at staff and governors' meetings.
- Audit of policies and Schemes of Work.
- Sharing of classroom work and practice.
- Audit of Collective Worship Policy and practice.

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- Collation of evidence in student's work in Department and College student work sampling.
- Regular reviews via the College Improvement Plan.

Department and Team Self-Review Process
 Equal Opportunities Policies
 Home-College Agreement
 Prevent Duty 2015
 Safeguarding Policy & Procedures
 Teaching and Learning Policy

ASSOCIATED POLICIES/PROCEDURES

Anti-Bullying Policy
 Behaviour Management Policy
 Citizenship Policy
 Collective Worship Policy

REVISION HISTORY

003 Review (Dec12); No change (Nov15)
 002 Review & ref Safeguarding (Oct09)
 001 Original document