

PRESTFELDE

Part of the Shrewsbury
School family



SMSC policy

Author(s)	Deputy Head Teaching and Learning.
Review body	SLT
Governor approval date	
Date of review	September 2026
Date of next review	September 2028
Website requirement	Yes
Inspection folder requirement	Yes

Significant amendments

Date	Amendment	Initials
23-07-2026	Specific reference to digital literacy	CLW
23-07-2026	Increased detail on link to safeguarding	CLW
23-07-2026	Addition of subject specific examples	CLW
23-07-2026	Addition of specific pupil outcomes	CLW
23-07-2026	2019 ISI reference updated to 2026	CLW
23-07-2026	Addition of national documents to review section	CLW

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development Policy

(SMSC)

Introduction

Central to Prestfelde, the belief is that the education provided is not only about the gaining of knowledge and the acquiring of essential skills, but it is also about the personal development of each pupil, in its fullest sense. The fullest sense, in terms of the 1992 Schools Act, is one which includes the "spiritual, moral, social and cultural development" of each child. This includes self-discipline, responsibility, respect for others and the environment. SMSC development contributes to safeguarding by helping pupils develop resilience, confidence, critical thinking skills, respect for others and an understanding of healthy relationships, enabling them to make safe and informed choices. Pupils learn how to behave responsibly online, evaluate information critically, engage respectfully in digital communities and understand the impact of their actions in virtual environments. The School actively promotes respect for all people regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. This policy outlines how Prestfelde promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development through every aspect of school life, ensuring pupils are well prepared for life in modern Britain and the wider world. The policy supports the school's commitment to promoting pupil wellbeing and personal development in line with the Independent School Standards and the principles of the ISI Inspection Framework.

Description of SMSC

Spiritual: Explore beliefs and experience; respect faiths, feelings and values; enjoy learning about oneself, others and the surrounding world; use imagination and creativity; reflect.

Moral: Recognise right and wrong; respect the law; understand consequences; investigate moral and ethical issues; offer reasoned views and have an appreciation of British Values.

Social: Investigate moral issues; appreciate diverse viewpoints; participate, volunteer and cooperate; resolve conflict; engage with the fundamental values of British democracy.

Cultural: Appreciate cultural influences; appreciate the role of Britain's parliamentary system; participate in culture opportunities; understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity.

Prestfelde values and ethos

The School prides itself on an explicit set of core values which are at the heart of all that it does: *Empathy, Aspiration, Perseverance, Selflessness, Respect, Unity, Confidence, Integrity, Courage and Humility*.

At Prestfelde we believe in providing an education for life in a caring environment, which aims to:

- actively promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs;

- ensure that the following principles are actively promoted which
 - enables pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence;
 - enables pupils to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England;
 - encourages pupils 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 in which the school is situated and to society more widely;
 - enables pupils to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England;
 - encourages tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling pupils to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures;
 - encourages respect for other people, paying particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the 2010 Act;
 - encourages respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic process, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England;
- precludes the promotion of partisan political views in the teaching of any subject in the school
- takes such steps as are reasonably practicable to ensure that where political issues are brought to the attention of pupils they are offered a balanced presentation of opposing views. This includes: while they are in attendance at the school; while they are taking part in extra-curricular activities which are provided or organised by or on behalf of the school; or (iii) in the promotion at the school, including through the distribution of promotional material, of extra-curricular activities taking place at the school or elsewhere.

Pupil outcomes.

We hope to see the following

- Pupils demonstrate respect and kindness.
- Pupils can discuss moral and ethical issues.
- Pupils understand British Values.
- Pupils show confidence in expressing views respectfully.
- Pupils actively contribute to school and community life.
- Pupils engage positively with people from different backgrounds.

Achieving the Aims

The ways in which we promote SMSC development for our children are varied and we believe that there are multiple ways in which SMSC is 'caught not taught' at Prestfelde.

- Play based learning in EYFS
- The KS1- KS3 curriculum (see subject examples in table below)
- Trips, visits, residential and fieldwork
- Guest speakers
- Extra-curricular activities
- Mapped Assemblies and special celebration services
- Targeted 'Drop down' days or 'Drop down' sessions
- Engaging with and recognizing national events
- Charity and fundraising events
- Community and partnership Work
- Concerts and Productions
- Student voice

- Student leadership opportunities and ambassador roles
- Sports events, subject competitions and house events
- Through our sanctions and rewards system, including Restorative justice
- Partnership with families; sharing of information and parent events
- Monthly Little P values mornings and whole school events where appropriate

Subject	SMSC Opportunities
English	Exploring values, empathy and different perspectives
History	Understanding democracy, justice and societal change
Geography	Global citizenship and environmental responsibility
RE	Exploring beliefs and worldviews
Art & Music	Cultural appreciation and creative expression
PE	Teamwork, fairness and resilience

Roles and responsibilities of school leaders and governors and expectations of staff

Prestfelde is committed to supporting and developing enthusiastic, dedicated staff and Governors who are equipped to ensure the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development of children is possible. Governors monitor the effectiveness of SMSC provision through reports from the Senior Leadership Team, policy review, pupil outcomes and inspection evidence.

All Staff have a responsibility to guide and support pupils and to facilitate meaningful opportunities to develop SMSC. This could include

- Supporting student leaders and house events in school
- Participating in whole school chapels and events
- Reviewing and adapting curriculum planning to enhance SMSC opportunities
- Planning trips and experiences to enhance SMSC opportunities
- Supporting student voice activities and initiatives
- Promote British Values
- Offer balanced and appropriate information linked to any political issues
- Working on wider community events

The Senior Leadership Team has the responsibility to:

- Actively promote SMSC
- Promote British values to pupils and help them understand its significance in our society
- Identify and provide staff with appropriate training and development opportunities
- Monitor the impact of the SMSC provision through learning walks and pupil voice.

Heads of Department should

- Map their subject area curriculum content against the whole school SMSC strands
- Identify opportunities to deliver strands of the SMSC curriculum and promote British Values

Provision for staff development and training

Where possible all teaching staff will be involved in training linked to SMSC. There will be times where subject leads or relevant members of staff will be trained individually This could involve

- PSHE CPD
- RSE CPD
- Wellbeing CPD
- Equality and Diversity CPD
- Any other relevant CPD

Monitoring of impact

The Senior Leadership Team of the School monitors and reviews the policy with regard to its general effectiveness. The evaluation process references Part 2 (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development of Pupils) of the Department for Education's *Independent School Standards Guidance for Independent Schools* (April 2026).

To monitor and evaluate the success of SMSC education we will use:

- PSHE iTrack data
- End of unit PSHE assessments
- Student voice activities
- Analysis of Class Charts data in relation to behaviour
- SOCS registration of attendance at Extra-curricular
- Learning walks
- Assembly monitoring
- Curriculum reviews
- Charity participation records
- House and leadership participation rates

Review

This policy will be reviewed biannually.

This policy has been devised with reference to national documentaiton and works in conjunction with other policies including: -

- Independent School Standards Guidance for Independent Schools (DfE, April 2026)
- ISI Framework for the Inspection of Association Independent Schools (September 2023 onwards)
- EYFS Statutory Framework
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (current edition)
- Equality Act 2010
- Anti Bullying
- Behaviour policy
- Equal opportunities
- Curriculum
- Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)
- PSHE/RSE policies
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

APPROVED DATE	September,		
REVIEW DATE	September, 2028		
SIGNED		PRINT NAME	
HEAD			

SIGNED		PRINT NAME	Rex Sartain
CHAIR OF GOVERNORS			