



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

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### 1. Introduction

Keys Group is committed to creating safe, nurturing, and inclusive environments where every pupil can thrive emotionally, socially, and academically. Our pupils, many of whom have experienced exclusion from mainstream education due to complex needs, challenging behaviours, or trauma, benefit from a bespoke approach that fosters their spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development.

We recognise that many pupils arrive with unmet basic needs and a history of instability. Our schools provide stability, care, and a sense of belonging, enabling pupils to develop self-confidence, resilience, and a positive sense of identity within a supportive community.

Our approach is underpinned by respect for all faiths, beliefs, and cultures, aligned with British values and the principles of equality and inclusion.

### 2. Aim and Scope

This policy aims to:-

- Promote the holistic development of pupils through SMSC education tailored to their individual needs.
- Ensure pupils develop self-knowledge, self-esteem, and self-confidence.
- Encourage pupils to understand and respect the civil and criminal law of England and Wales.
- Support pupils in taking responsibility for their behaviour and contributing positively to their communities.
- Foster respect for diversity, democracy, and cultural traditions.
- Prepare pupils for adulthood by equipping them with social skills, moral understanding, and cultural awareness.
- Prepare pupils for adulthood by equipping them with citizenship skills, community participation opportunities, and social competencies essential for independent and responsible living.

This policy applies to all Keys Group schools and is adapted locally to reflect each school's context and pupil cohort.

This policy supports compliance with ISS Part 2, which relates to the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development of pupils.



### **3. Definition of SMSC**

Spiritual, Moral, Social, and Cultural Education (SMSC) at Keys Group is integral to our curriculum and daily practice. It helps pupils develop values, empathy, and the ability to engage positively with others. SMSC is embedded in:-

- The curriculum and lesson planning.
- The school ethos and relationships.
- Assemblies, tutor times, and enrichment activities.
- Behaviour support and restorative practice.
- Community involvement and special events.

### **4. Implementation**

#### **4.1 Curriculum Integration**

- SMSC themes are incorporated across subjects, with resources carefully selected to align with our values.

#### **4.2 School Ethos and Environment**

- Staff model respectful, empathetic behaviours and foster a culture of inclusion.
- Positive relationships and restorative approaches support pupils' moral and social development.
- Restorative practice underpins our approach to behaviour support and moral development, helping pupils understand the impact of their actions, repair relationships, and develop social responsibility.

#### **4.3 Tutor Time and Drop-Down Days**

- Tutor time includes reflection and discussion opportunities to reinforce SMSC themes.
- Our SMSC calendar is structured to include dedicated 'Drop Down Days', during which pupils engage in a wide range of themed activities designed to promote SMSC development. These sessions provide immersive learning experiences aligned with significant events and values.

#### **4.4 Enrichment and Community Engagement**

- Pupils participate in vocational, extracurricular, and charitable activities that promote social responsibility.
- Schools maintain strong links with families, local authorities, and community organisations to support pupils' development.
- Our enrichment activities actively promote pupils' engagement with local communities, fostering a sense of belonging, responsibility, and citizenship.



- Our 'Making Memories' initiative is a distinctive feature of Keys Group, providing pupils with enriching experiences that foster SMSC development and create lasting positive memories.

#### **4.5 Trauma-Informed SMSC Support**

We recognise that many pupils have experienced trauma or exclusion which can impact their engagement with SMSC education. Staff are trained in trauma-informed approaches to create safe, nurturing spaces where pupils feel valued and supported to explore moral, social, and cultural themes at their own pace.

Restorative practises and personalised support plans are used to help pupils process experiences and develop positive social behaviours.

#### **5. Monitoring and Evaluation**

The school actively monitors and evaluates the impact of SMSC provision through a range of strategies to ensure pupils' spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development in embedded across the curriculum and wider school life. These include:

- Curriculum Mapping: regular audits to identify where SMSC themes are integrated within subjects and ensure comprehensive coverage.
- Lesson Observations: SMSC is a focus during observations to assess how values and cultural understanding are promoted in classroom practice.
- Behaviour and Attitude Data: analysis of behaviour logs, attendance, and engagement in enrichment activities to measure positive attitudes and respect for others.
- Drop Down Days: Evaluation of themed days through staff reflections, pupil feedback, and alignment with British Values.
- Evidence Collection: A portfolio of photographs, and pupil work from SMSC events and Drop-Down Days to demonstrate impact and celebrate achievements.

#### **6. Training and Staff Development**

- SMSC policy and practice are included in staff induction.
- Ongoing training supports staff in delivering effective SMSC education tailored to pupils with complex needs.

#### **7. Equality and Inclusion**

Keys Group is committed to equality and diversity. SMSC provision respects and celebrates differences in race, faith, gender, disability, and sexual orientation. Any concerns related to discrimination or disadvantage are addressed promptly and sensitively.



## Appendix 1: Local SMSC Enrichment Opportunities

### Purpose:

To outline enrichment activities available locally that support SMSC development, tailored to each school's location and pupil needs.

### Example Template:

Opportunity Name	Description	SMSC Aspect(s)	Frequency	Accessibility Notes	Contact Information
Local Community Garden	Pupils participate in planting and upkeep	Social, Cultural	Weekly	Suitable for all pupils with support	Contact: [Name/Phone]
Museum Visits	Explore local history and culture	Cultural, Spiritual	Termly	Risk assessment required	Contact: [Name/Phone]
Charity Fundraising	Organised events to support local causes	Moral, Social	Termly	Inclusive for all pupils	Contact: [Name/Phone]
Vocational Workshops	Practical skills development	Social, Moral	Monthly	Tailored for SEND pupils	Contact: [Name/Phone]

### Guidance:

- Update this list annually.
- Encourage staff to identify new opportunities that align with SMSC goals.
- Consider transport, accessibility, and risk assessments for all activities.



## Appendix 2: Staff Training Log for SMSC

### Purpose:

To record all SMSC-related training undertaken by staff to ensure ongoing professional development and consistent practice.

### Template:

Date	Training Title/Topic	Trainer/Provider	Staff Attending	Key Learning Points	Impact on Practice/Next Steps
DD/MM/YYYY	Restorative Practice in SMSC	[Name/Organisation]	List of Staff Names	Summary of skills/knowledge gained	How training will influence teaching/support

### Guidance:

- Include induction training and ongoing CPD.
- Review training needs annually as part of performance management.
- Share key learnings in team meetings to promote best practice.