



The Angmering School

Ambition

Courage

Respect

Spiritual, Moral, Social, Religious and Cultural Development (SMSRC Policy) 2025

Ratified by Full Governing Body: 14 May 2025
Review Due May 2027

At **The Angmering School**, we are committed to fostering the **spiritual, moral, social, religious, and cultural (SMSC) development** of all students, in alignment with the **Education Act 2002** and other statutory guidance. Our approach is guided by our core values:

- **Ambition** – We encourage students to explore their beliefs, develop strong moral principles, and engage actively in society with a sense of purpose.
- **Respect** – We cultivate an environment where different beliefs, cultures, and perspectives are valued, ensuring that all students feel seen, heard, and respected.
- **Courage** – We empower students to stand up for their values, question injustices, and contribute to a more inclusive and fair society.

Our **inclusive, rights-respecting ethos** ensures that every student, regardless of background or belief, feels safe and supported in school.

This policy aligns with UK legislation, including:

- **Education Act 2002** – Requires schools to promote the **spiritual, moral, cultural, mental, and physical development** of students and prepare them for life beyond school.
- **Equality Act 2010** – Ensures that all students are treated **fairly and inclusively**, preventing discrimination based on religion, belief, or cultural background.
- **UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)** – Upholds children's rights to **freedom of thought, conscience, and religion** (Article 14), **education that fosters respect for diversity** (Article 29), and **protection from discrimination** (Article 2).
- **School Standards and Framework Act 1998** – Requires schools to provide a daily act of collective worship that is “**wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character**,” while allowing for inclusivity and parental withdrawal.
- **Ofsted Framework** – Assesses how well schools promote SMSC development, British values, and an understanding of different cultures and beliefs.

SMSC Objectives and Our School Values

Spiritual Development (Ambition & Courage)

We nurture students' ability to:

- Explore their own and others' beliefs with curiosity and critical thinking.
- Develop a sense of wonder, purpose, and ambition in their personal and academic lives.
- Engage in self-reflection and discussions on ethical and philosophical issues.

Moral Development (Respect & Courage)

We encourage students to:

- Understand **right and wrong**, the consequences of actions, and ethical decision-making.
- Show courage in standing up for **justice, fairness, and equality** in their communities.
- Respect and uphold the rights of others, guided by the **UNCRC and British values**.

Social Development (Respect & Inclusion)

We promote:

- Positive relationships, teamwork, and active participation in school and community life.
- The ability to engage in **respectful dialogue** on complex social and ethical issues.
- An inclusive culture that values all identities, ensuring every student **feels safe, heard, and valued**.

Cultural Development (Ambition & Respect)

We foster:

- Awareness and appreciation of diverse cultures, traditions, and global perspectives.
- Opportunities to engage in **cultural activities, festivals, and exchange programs**.
- A curriculum that reflects **multicultural Britain**, preparing students for life in a diverse world.

Religious Education (Respect & Inclusion)

Our RE curriculum:

- Encourages students to **explore different religious and non-religious worldviews** with an open mind.
- Promotes **mutual understanding and tolerance**, preventing religious prejudice.
- Respects **individual freedom of thought and belief**, in line with human rights laws.

British Values

- Respect for democracy and support or participation in the democratic process
- Respect for the basis on which the law is made and applies in England
- Support for equality of opportunity for all
- Support and respect for the liberties of all within the law
- Respect for and tolerance of different faiths and religious and other beliefs

Our school reflects British values in all that we do. We aim to nurture our students on their journey through life so they can grow into safe, caring, democratic, responsible and tolerant adults who make a positive difference to British society and to the world. We encourage our children to be creative, unique, open-minded and independent individuals, respectful of themselves and of others in our school, our local community and the wider world. Wherever possible, we take a global approach to learning by introducing themes from the perspective of other people in other countries.

At The Angmering School, we promote British values in the following ways:

Democracy

- Tutor reps, year reps and the Empowerment Council - All students are encouraged to debate topics of interest, express their views and make a meaningful contribution to the running of the school on matters that directly involve students. Students also have the opportunity to have their voices heard through student questionnaires and student surveys.
- The principle of democracy is explored in the curriculum as well as during assemblies

Rule of Law

- School rules and expectations are clear, fair and regularly promoted.
- Students are always helped to distinguish right from wrong, in the classroom, during assemblies and during unstructured time.
- Students are regularly reminded about their 'Rights and Responsibilities' and about how these are linked.
- Students are encouraged to respect the law and The Angmering School enjoys visits from authorities such as the Police, Fire Service, Ambulance, etc. to help reinforce this message
- Our behaviour policy states a zero tolerance baseline for any form of aggression, abuse or violence, which extends to students, staff and parents and carers.

Individual liberty

- Within school, students are actively encouraged, and given the freedom to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. eg. by signing up for extra-curricular clubs or choosing their optional GCSE courses
- Students are supported to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence.
- Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their behaviour and our pastoral support reinforces the importance of making the right choices.
- Students are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our e-safety teaching and PSHE lessons.
- Vulnerable students are protected and stereotypes challenged. A strong anti-bullying culture is embedded in the school and any form of bullying is challenged and addressed. The school also operates a robust system of logging incidents.
- Students have key roles and responsibilities in school e.g. school council representatives in each class, prefects, ambassadors and sports leaders.

Mutual respect and tolerance for those with different religious beliefs

- Respect is one of the core values of our school. Students know and understand that it is expected that respect is shown to everyone, adults and children.
- Students are helped to acquire an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other cultures and ways of life.
- Staff and students are encouraged to challenge prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour.
- Through the PSHE and RE curriculums students are encouraged to discuss and respect differences between people such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, gender or sexuality and differences of family situations.
- We offer a culturally rich and diverse curriculum in which all major religions are studied and respected and global dimension work embedded in many of our humanities topics and discrete language lessons (Spanish and French). These curriculum topics offer children the chance to reflect on our core values and British values.

Implementation of SMSC Education

- **Curriculum Integration** – SMSC is embedded across subjects, from discussing ethics in science to exploring cultural narratives in literature.

- **Collective Worship** – While broadly Christian in character, our assemblies **celebrate diversity**, include **multifaith perspectives**, and reflect our **inclusive ethos**.
- **Student Leadership** – We provide opportunities for students to **lead on social justice initiatives**, such as anti-racism campaigns and rights-respecting projects.
- **Extracurricular & Community Engagement** – Activities such as **charity work, school trips, and cultural events** help students put values into practice.
- **Staff Training** – Teachers receive **ongoing CPD** on promoting SMSC and ensuring an inclusive classroom environment.

Roles & Responsibilities

- **Governors** – Ensure legal compliance and strategic oversight of SMSC provision.
- **Senior Leaders** – Embed SMSC into the school ethos and curriculum.
- **All Staff** – Model and promote values of **ambition, respect, and courage** in teaching and interactions.
- **Students** – Actively engage in discussions, activities, and leadership opportunities that promote SMSC development.

Monitoring & Evaluation

We evaluate the impact of our SMSC provision through:

- **Student Voice** – Surveys, focus groups, and school council feedback.
- **Curriculum Reviews** – Ensuring subjects **embed SMSC learning effectively**.
- **Ofsted & External Evaluations** – Reviewing SMSC provision in line with national standards.

At **The Angmering School**, we believe that SMSC education is central to our mission of developing well-rounded, **ethical, and globally aware individuals**. By linking SMSC to our values of **ambition, respect, and courage**, and maintaining a **rights-respecting ethos**, we prepare our students to **thrive in a diverse and ever-changing world**.