



# **Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development Policy**

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## **Purpose**

To ensure that Unity College provides a range of high quality opportunities for students to develop spiritually, morally, socially and culturally both as individuals and as members of a community.

## **Principles**

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development is crucial for individual students and it is crucial for society as a whole.

In Unity College, the promotion of students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural education is considered to be 'a whole college issue' and is strongly linked to Unity, Passion and Respect.

### **Our Values**

- United in learning
- Passionate about being the best we can
- Respect shown to ourselves, each other and our community

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development is promoted in the following ways:

- Through all curriculum subjects
- Through extra-curricular activities
- Through assemblies and tutor time
- Through our displays, newsletters, website and social media
- Through opportunities to work with and interact with the local community.
- Through educational visits

## **Spiritual Development**

This relates to the quest for individual identity and the search for meaning and purpose in our existence. It leads towards the understanding of self and others. It has to do with feelings, emotions, attitudes and beliefs. It is not linked solely to a particular doctrine or faith and spiritual development is therefore accessible to everyone.

### **Aims for Spiritual Development**

- The ability to listen
- The ability to reflect
- The ability to sense awe and wonder at mystery in the world
- The ability to sense the special nature of human relationships
- An enthusiasm for giving time and skills to help others

### **Objectives for Spiritual Development**

- To develop the skill to use all one's senses
- To develop imagination

- To encourage times for quiet reflection throughout the college day
- To develop individual self confidence
- To develop the ability to reflect on own work and behaviour
- To facilitate opportunities for students to give something back to the community

## **Moral Development**

Students are encouraged to understand the need for a common code and to follow it from conviction and to develop the ability to make judgements and to become increasingly responsible for their own actions or and behaviour.

### **Aims for Moral Development**

- To understand the principles lying behind decisions and actions
- To be able to distinguish between right and wrong
- To be able to make decisions, accepting and understanding consequences of their actions
- To move gradually through a 'taught morality' to taking responsibility for their own moral decisions

### **Objectives for Moral Development**

- To tell the truth
- To respect the rights and property of others, including the right to learn
- To help others less fortunate than themselves
- To be considerate to and to co-operate with others
- To take responsibility of own actions, including arriving to lesson on time
- To exercise self-discipline
- To develop ambition and a positive attitude
- To conform to rules and regulations to promote order for the good of all

## **Social Development**

This enables students to become conscientious participants at home, in their classes, and in the local and wider community. Within this there should be a balance of the positive, satisfying elements of belonging to a group or society along with the demands, obligations and co-operation such membership requires.

### **Aims for Social Development**

- To relate positively to others
- To participate fully and take responsibility in class and college
- To use appropriate behaviour across a range of situations
- To work co-operatively with others
- To use own initiative responsibly
- To understand our place in our family, college and society

### **Objectives for Social Development**

- To share emotions such as love, joy, hope, anguish, fear and reverence
- To be sensitive to the needs and feelings of others

- To work as part of a group
- To interact positively across a range of situations, inside Unity College and in the local community
- To develop an understanding of citizenship and to experience being a part of a caring community
- To show care and consideration for others e.g. sharing and turn taking
- To realise that every individual can do something well and have something to offer

## **Cultural Development**

At the heart of cultural development lies the necessity to develop a sense of personal identity, whilst at the same time acquiring awareness, understanding and tolerance regarding the cultural traditions and beliefs of others.

### **Aims for Cultural Development**

- To develop a sense of belonging to students' own culture and being proud of their cultural background
- To respond to cultural events
- To share different cultural experiences
- To respect different cultural traditions
- To understand codes of behaviour, fitting to cultural tradition

### **Objectives for Cultural Development**

- To develop an awareness, recognition and appreciation of the Arts, i.e. Music, Art, Drama, Literature etc.
- To develop a love for learning
- To develop an understanding of different cultures and beliefs
- To appreciate the values and customs of other ethnic and faith groups in Unity College and the world beyond