

**Celebrating pupils' Spiritual,  
Moral, Social and Cultural  
development  
at**

**Dishforth Airfield Primary School**



## **Dishforth Airfield Legacy statement:**

“After being at our school you will be able to look at the wider world with the confidence and knowledge that you can make a difference and that you matter.”

SMSC is at the heart of our teaching and learning at Dishforth Airfield Primary. This booklet highlights our wide-ranging provision which helps to develop our pupils as spiritual, moral, social and cultural learners. Global Dimension is embedded in the work of the school and encapsulated within this are the British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

### **What is SMSC?**

SMSC is about developing the whole person. As our pupils move through the school, we are committed to developing not only their academic standards and levels of achievement, but also their spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness. We aim to provide opportunities for our children to form their own identity; giving them the confidence to question and discover who they are in the world. A Christian ethos underpins our values and mission alongside a broad and balanced religious education curriculum encompassing Judaism, Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Chinese New Year and Humanism.

### **Spiritual**

We give students the opportunity to explore values and beliefs, including religious beliefs, and the way in which they affect peoples' lives.

- We give students the opportunity to understand human feelings and emotions, the way they affect people and how an understanding of them can be helpful.
- We encourage pupils to lead their learning; developing an enquiring mind to ask and answer 'why?' 'how?' and 'where?' 'what if...?' questions.
- Pupils are encouraged to discuss and debate viewpoints and make links across areas of learning to understand wider contexts.

### **Moral**

We provide a clear moral code as a basis for behaviour which is promoted consistently through all aspects of the school through our school values of:

- Responsibility – pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their actions and behaviour choices, respect for property, care for the environment and the school community.
- Resilience - we believe good self-esteem is the key to emotional resilience which allows children to develop their ability to take risks and make decisions in their learning.
- Commitment - pupils are encouraged to become determined independent learners, to persevere to achieve their best at all times; to aim high.
- Cooperation – we embrace inclusive approaches through the school to develop our sense of team, equality and an understanding of working with each other. Discrimination against race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age and disability is not accepted, and stereotypes are challenged.

### **Social**

We foster a sense of community where all pupils can flourish.



- Exploring and understanding personal qualities which are valued in a society allows pupils to develop self and mutual respect.
- Our behaviour policy is rooted in Restorative Practice which promotes and facilitates a sense of fairness and resolve through communication.
- Forging close links with parents, Governors, the local, national and global community develops our pupils' understanding of interdependency.






### **Cultural**






Pupils explore their own cultural assumptions and values in learning across the curriculum



- We present authentic accounts of the attitudes, values and traditions of diverse cultures.
- We encourage children to learn about and celebrate the different cultural backgrounds of all children at Dishforth Airfield Primary through regular celebrations and discussions.



At Dishforth Airfield Primary, SMSC permeates the whole school ethos through teaching and learning approaches across the curriculum. Here is a snapshot of the wide ranging SMSC provision; the school's weekly newsletter and website also capture SMSC in action.

|   | <b>Activity</b>  | <b>S</b> | <b>M</b> | <b>S</b> | <b>C</b> |
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|    | We have made strong links within the local community in particular with the church at nearby Kirby Hill and with the local Army Regiment's Padre who visits school regularly to talk to the children each term about events in the Christian calendar.   |          | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        |
|    | Our annual celebration of the Fijian culture in school encompasses all age groups and is a chance for children to explore new cultures and share their own cultural identities and experiences.  | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        |
|   | Events such as International food day are used as opportunities to share foods, traditions and experiences with each child making and sharing a dish from their home nation. This encourages children to broaden their horizons by trying lots of different things and also developed their confidence in talking about their own cultural heritage. | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        |
|  | Following the pandemic, our older children will begin visiting local care homes for the elderly, to perform Christmas carols. This helps to strengthen the intergenerational bonds between children and the elderly, something which is often missing in a military context.   | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        |
|  | As a school we take part in a wide range of activities beyond the school building. The children are encouraged to think about the themes of service and belonging whilst visiting the Army camp and develop a sense of awe and wonder in places of worship in our community.   | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        |

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|    | <p>In December this year the older children in school took part in 'mini-medics' first aid training to support their social and moral development. They now have the skills and confidence to know what to do in an emergency situation.</p>   | ✓ | ✓ |   |   |
|    | <p>We encourage children to think about people less fortunate than ourselves. As a Global citizens school, Fairtrade is important to us and we are pursuing Fairtrade Schools awards as well as running Fairtrade fortnight events in 2023. In addition, we support other charities including Cafod, Actionaid, Wateraid, Oxfam, MacMillan Cancer. The school gets involved in national charity days such as Sport Relief, Red Nose Day and Children in Need. On these special days we share and celebrate each other's talents.</p> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|   | <p>Christingle service is a special time to think about love in the world and our place within it. We make our own Christingles to remind us of this important Christian message, sing hymns and share the spiritual experience of lighting our candles together with joy and wonder.</p>  | ✓ |   | ✓ | ✓ |
|  | <p>Sport and living our values through sport play a big part at Dishforth Airfield Primary. Children and parents enjoy sports day and are beginning to participate in community cluster tournaments again. We hold the gold Sainsbury's school games award and are developing our children's skills in leading their own sport through Energy Club which coordinate games for the whole school at play time.</p>   | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|  | <p>E-Safety is always on our minds and in addition to regular updates in the newsletter and a dedicated website page, we invite the PCSO's in to school. The children are given e-safety lessons and this is then followed up with a weekly safety newsletter for parents.</p>   |   | ✓ | ✓ |   |

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|    | <p>Music in school highlights many values which are significant to us. Commitment, resilience and cooperation come together in children's performances which often bring adults to tears as they capture the essence of spirituality – these are very emotional experiences and the feedback from visitors always recognises this.</p> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|    | <p>Personal safety and awareness of danger is a very important part of our curriculum. Regular visits from PCOs are planned to discuss various aspects of personal safety with children including road safety and Key Stage Two will take part in Crucial Crew sessions at Carlton Lodge this November.</p>                            |   | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|   | <p>School runs its own Parent's Away Club helping children to send communications to parents far away, as many parents are deployed on active service.</p>   | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|  | <p>Understanding and celebrating difference is embedded in our curriculum. Using resources like Woodfer's World to raise awareness of Autistic Spectrum allows children to quickly become tolerant and supportive of each other.</p>   |   | ✓ | ✓ |   |
|  | <p>Our celebration assemblies every Friday showcase the great things the children have been doing in school the previous week. Children feel a great sense of pride in being able to share their achievements with their friends and the wider school community.</p>   |   | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

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|    | <p>The use of Makaton is embedded as part of our school community. We have a number of children throughout school who use Makaton to support their communication and we have achieved Makaton friendly status to reflect the effort that we put into ensuring that children, parents and staff are supported in using Makaton in their day to day interactions. We hold weekly assemblies to teach new signs and songs, we have a successful 'singing hands' club and we share our signs with parents via the newsletter and our Facebook page.</p>   | ✓ | ✓ |   | ✓ |
|    | <p>This year we have developed reflection areas in each of our classrooms. These are spaces where children can have a quiet moment to reflect on an aspect of their lives either inside or outside of school. Children have enjoyed adding to the areas and sharing their reflections.</p>  | ✓ |   | ✓ | ✓ |
|  | <p>Our close connection with the local army regiment, means that Remembrance Day is always an important event in the school calendar. In 2019 we marked the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the First World War in a very special way. We created a permanent art installation on the pathway to school which involved each child painting a pebble which then created a mosaic poppy. Each child also made their own poppy with a personal message on the leaf which were proudly displayed on the way into school. We hold a special assembly each year which allows all children to reflect as individuals and as part of the wider school community.</p> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|  | <p>In 2020 we introduced metacognition and emotion coaching throughout school. We have been delivering weekly assemblies and running workshops in classes to enable children to better understand how their brain works and how they can manage tricky situations and big feelings.</p>   | ✓ | ✓ |   |   |
|  | <p>Each year the children in KS1 and Early Years work towards producing a Nativity play for their parents and families. This year the children performed 'It's a Baby!' and "Miracle in Town"</p>   | ✓ |   | ✓ | ✓ |

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|  | <p>At our school we believe in delivering a broad and balanced curriculum. As such we have developed a 'passport of experiences' through consultation with staff, parents and children. These document the experiences which we will deliver to each child within their key stage and include a variety of educational, cultural and unusual activities which aim to broaden our children's experiences during their often short time with us.</p> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
|  | <p>In 2020 each teacher in school worked towards receiving the 'global teachers' award. This involved renewing the focus on teaching children about their roles as global citizens. Now, Global Dimensions are carefully considered and discussed throughout all areas of learning and specific events are planned to coincide with Fairtrade Fortnight, the UNICEF Children's Day and the Greenpeace Big Green Week.</p>                          |   |   |   |   |

# Dishforth Airfield Primary



## Vision Statement

We believe in promoting the individual child, within a happy, secure environment where children and staff feel valued and respect each other.

## Our Aims

- Ensure each child respects and is responsible for themselves and others.
- Develop a sense of pride and self-esteem in each child and instil confidence so that they may become independent learners and active global citizens.
- Promote high standards in both academic achievement and behaviour.
- Forge close links and develop co-operation with parents, Governors, the local, national and global community.

## Our values

**Responsibility**

**Resilience**

**Commitment**

**Cooperation**

