

SMSC in English at Sabden Primary School



English education at Sabden Primary School encompasses the development of students' spiritual, moral, social, and cultural (SMSC) aspects.

In terms of spiritual development, students delve into the meanings conveyed in various books and texts, empathizing with characters who face challenges in their lives. To foster empathy, drama activities and role-playing are often employed. The selection of novels and texts aims to engage students not only intellectually, but also emotionally, encouraging reflection on personal experiences through text types such as diaries and biographies. For instance, Year 6 students contemplate and discuss the relationships, friendships, and responses of different characters while reading "Wonder."

Moral development involves analysing moral dilemmas confronted by characters in literature, seeking hidden messages, and cultivating an understanding of right and wrong. In younger year groups, the focus is on teaching and recognizing morals such as the importance of treating others well through the exploration of various books. For example, Key Stage One explores the theme of friendships in the text "Lost and Found." In older year groups, more complex moral dilemmas are addressed, and students are guided to explore character motives and issues both in discussions and their own writing.

Social development in English education revolves around students developing their ability to work collaboratively, valuing active listening, and taking on responsibilities within a group. Novels and short stories that provide insights into society and community are read, enabling students to understand how their lives are influenced by these factors. Group discussions foster fair and effective communication among peers, boosting confidence and language skills, which are crucial for personal and social identity. A range of literary forms such as poetry, fiction, drama, film, and television are used to engage students with emotions, values, and cultural perspectives. Through the exploration of different sources, students also gain an understanding of the evolution of language. For instance, students compare language differences between old and new versions of Greek myths.

Cultural development involves the exposure to texts from diverse cultures, broadening students' awareness and understanding of different backgrounds. Through imaginative writing, poetry, imagery, drama, role play, myths, and historical narratives, students explore the viewpoints and attitudes of individuals from various cultures, including their own. They have the opportunity to compare their own culture

and community with others. Additionally, cultural awareness is fostered through theatre trips and the exploration of various forms of media.