SMSC in English

Through teaching Reading, we can also develop children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Spiritual Development

- Spiritual development in English involves the children acquiring insights into their own personal existence through literacy appreciation and analysis. Through careful selection of texts, pupils consider the belief that one's inner resources provide the ability to rise above everyday experiences.
- Through empathy with characters, children develop a growing understanding of how ideology contributes to personal identity.
- Children will be provided with opportunities to extract meaning beyond the literal, consider alternative interpretation and hidden meanings while engaging with ideas in fiction, non-fiction, poetry and drama.
- Children explore how choice of language and style affects implied and explicit meaning. Pupils are provided with opportunities to reflect on their own life and lives of others using diaries, journals, letters, biographies and autobiographies.
- Children experience a rich variety of quality language use, and learn how to use language in imaginative and original ways, drawing on their reading, and considering how words, usage and meaning change over time.

Moral Development

- Pupils explore and analyse appropriate texts, which furnish them with the knowledge and ability to question and reason. This then enables them to develop their own value system and to make reasonable decisions on matters of personal integrity.
- Pupils begin to develop an awareness that right and wrong in life situations is not always universally agreed.
- Through detailed and supportive methods of assessment and feedback, alongside actively encouraging self and peer assessment, some of the responsibility for progress is put into the hands of the pupils.
- Through reflection on a writer's presentation of ideas and the motivation and behaviour of characters, pupils express informed personal opinions. Children learn to articulate their own attitudes and values through being provided with opportunities to discuss matters of personal concern, related to books and plays read in class.

Social Development

- Participation, creativity, reflection and independence are encouraged in all Reading and Phonics lessons.
- Pupils are provided with opportunities to read texts that portray issues and events relating to contemporary life or past experience in interesting and challenging ways.
- Discussion work, in pairs and larger groups, alongside studying a whole range of literature, including novels, plays and poetry, helps and encourages the pupils' social and moral development.

Cultural Development

- Stories are selected which encourage pupils to empathise with the feelings and experiences of others to help develop their understanding of other people's attitudes, ideas and behaviour.
- Pupils develop sensitive awareness of, and the ability to respond constructively to, backgrounds, experiences, concerns, feelings and commitments of others through a range of different narratives.
- We provide opportunities for pupils to engage with texts from different cultures.
- Children develop sensitive awareness of, and the ability to respond constructively to, the backgrounds, experiences, concerns, feelings and commitments of others through poetry, imagery, drama, role-play, myth and historical narrative