



Victory Heights Primary School  
City of Arabia  
**Spiritual, Moral, Social and  
Cultural Policy**

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**Responsible SLT:** Headteacher

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## **Equal Opportunities Statement**

Victory Heights Primary School City of Arabia is committed to creating an environment where all children, regardless of gender, nationality, race, religion, ability, or background, feel valued and respected. Our SMSC policy ensures that every child is given equal access to opportunities for spiritual, moral, social, and cultural growth. Through inclusive practices, we foster a sense of belonging and empower children to contribute positively to their school, local, and global communities.

## **Policy Vision**

At Victory Heights Primary School City of Arabia, we believe in nurturing compassionate, respectful, and well-rounded children who will grow into active and thoughtful citizens of the world. Guided by our core belief, "**All You Need is Love,**" our SMSC programme fosters a culture of kindness, understanding, and respect. Through the integration of **British Values, Islamic Values,** and principles of **global citizenship,** we aim to cultivate children who are not only academically capable but also morally and socially responsible, ready to make a positive impact in their communities and beyond.

## **Policy Scope**

This policy encompasses the **Moral, Social, and Cultural Studies curriculum** as mandated by UAE national guidelines while extending its influence across every aspect of school life. From classroom lessons and assemblies to extra-curricular activities and leadership opportunities, SMSC development at Victory Heights Primary School City of Arabia is a holistic approach. By embedding **British and Islamic Values** and promoting global awareness, we ensure that children gain the knowledge, empathy, and moral compass required to navigate and contribute to an interconnected world with confidence and purpose.

## **Aims of the Policy**

SMSC is fundamental to preparing children for life in a diverse and interconnected world. At Victory Heights, we seek to develop children's positive attitudes and beliefs by giving them opportunities to:

- Develop spiritual, moral, and ethical values through both Islamic and British traditions.
- Celebrate and respect cultural diversity while fostering mutual understanding.
- Foster self-knowledge, self-esteem, and self-confidence to help children flourish.
- Distinguish right from wrong, understand personal responsibility, and respect the rule of law.
- Demonstrate empathy, kindness, and respect for others, promoting tolerance and harmony.
- Embrace their role as local, national, and global citizens who actively contribute to society.

By promoting values that span both the **Islamic tradition** and **British ideals**, we ensure that our children grow up with a shared sense of humanity, responsibility, and appreciation for all cultures.

## **Spiritual Development**

We believe that spiritual development is essential for children to connect with themselves, others, and the wider world. At Victory Heights, children will be given opportunities to:

- Develop critical and independent thinking, fostering a reflective mindset.
- Experience moments of reflection and contemplation, including during Islamic prayer and collective worship.
- Form meaningful relationships with others based on understanding, empathy, and love.
- Reflect on and celebrate the wonders of life, fostering a sense of awe and gratitude.
- Respect the spiritual beliefs and values of others, creating an inclusive school environment.

### **Spiritual development is promoted through:**

- Our school's ethos, values, and assemblies are grounded in love, kindness, and respect.
- For children of muslim faith, Islamic Education curriculum, including Tajweed and Quranic recitals.
- Arabic assemblies and special events, including **Islamic celebrations**.
- The opportunity for muslim children to use prayer rooms within the school.
- Reflection times built into lessons and activities.

# Moral Development

Children are encouraged to understand moral principles, make responsible decisions, and reflect on the consequences of their actions.

As part of their moral development, children will:

- Understand the difference between right and wrong, and act accordingly.
- Respect others' views, property, and rights.
- Take responsibility for their actions and learn from their mistakes.
- Understand the importance of truth, fairness, and justice.
- Develop an awareness of how their behaviour impacts others.
- Show care for the environment and sustainable living.

**Moral development is promoted through:**

- Staff, senior leaders, and the **School Council acting as positive role models.**
- The consistent application of high behavioural expectations.
- **Reward and recognition systems** that celebrate good character and positive choices.
- **Assemblies with moral themes** (e.g., kindness, fairness, honesty).
- Internet safety awareness and discussions on ethical technology use.
- Charity events promoting compassion, empathy, and a sense of duty.

## Social Development

Through social development, children learn to form positive relationships, contribute meaningfully to groups, and understand their place within different communities.

Children will have opportunities to:

- Collaborate with others in group activities, understanding teamwork and leadership.
- Develop empathy and concern for the well-being of others in their community.
- Take on leadership responsibilities in the classroom and the wider school.
- Help those in need, both locally and globally, through charitable activities.
- Engage in structured activities where cooperation and compromise are valued.

**Social development is promoted through:**

- **Classroom organisation and cooperative learning tasks.**
- Opportunities for group work, peer mentoring, and shared projects.
- Leadership roles, such as **Student Councils, House Captains, and Junior Leaders.**
- **Trips and visits** to broaden children's social awareness.
- Participation in **community events** and charity fundraising activities.
- **Extra-curricular activities** such as sports, music, and drama that build teamwork and collaboration.

## Cultural Development

We encourage children to appreciate their own cultural background while respecting and understanding others' traditions, ensuring that they become globally aware citizens.

Children will:

- Recognise and celebrate the richness of diverse cultures, languages, and beliefs.
- Develop an understanding of both local customs and global perspectives.
- Build an appreciation for **Art, Music, and Literature** as cultural expressions.
- Understand societal values and traditions through experiential learning.
- Appreciate how diversity strengthens communities.

Cultural development is promoted through:

- **Visits to museums, galleries, and cultural events.**
- Celebrations of **local and global festivals** (e.g., International Week).
- **External speakers and community representatives** sharing cultural insights.
- The teaching of both **Arabic and Islamic Studies curricula**
- Art, music, and literature woven into the school's curriculum.

## **British and Islamic Values**

At Victory Heights Primary School City of Arabia, our children experience the best of both British and Islamic values. We nurture respect, tolerance, compassion, and fairness while teaching children the importance of living within the rule of law. Our children are taught:

- The value of democracy and participating in decision-making processes.
- The importance of individual liberty, freedom of thought, and respectful debate.
- The significance of tolerance for those with different faiths, beliefs, and lifestyles.
- Responsibility, fairness, and the importance of truth and justice.
- **Islamic values** of peace, generosity, and compassion, which align seamlessly with the principles of respect and care.

Through "**All You Need is Love**," we ensure that these values become living principles in everything we do, fostering children who respect the diversity of others while confidently embracing their identity as citizens of the world.



Victory Heights Primary School  
City of Arabia  
**Spiritual, Moral, Social and  
Cultural Policy Appendix**

## **Appendix 1: British Values Statement**

As a British School Overseas, we are proud to promote 'British Values' through every aspect of our curriculum and school life. We fully recognise the multi-cultural, multi-faith, and dynamic nature of Britain, reflecting its similarities to, and differences from, the United Arab Emirates. We understand the vital role our entire school community plays in fostering diversity, tolerance, and understanding in an inclusive environment. At the same time, we respect cultural sensitivities that influence how our curriculum represents contemporary British values.

We actively encourage discussion and reflection on the term 'British values' and provide opportunities for our students to explore and debate what it means to be British in a global context. These values are not static but evolving, and we believe in equipping our students with the tools to engage meaningfully with these ideas.

At Victory Heights Primary School City of Arabia, we ensure that all members of our community model and uphold these values, as outlined in the UK Government's guidance on Promoting Fundamental British Values (November 2014, Ref DFE-00679-2014):

### **Democracy**

We provide our students with numerous opportunities to have their voices heard. Each year, we hold democratic elections for our student council, where students actively participate in campaigning and voting. The elected council represents their peers, collecting anonymous feedback through a drop box and meeting regularly with the Principal to discuss and act on student concerns. Additionally, regular surveys, both school-wide and classroom-based, allow students to share their opinions, which influence planning, facilities, and school life.

### **Rule of Law**

Understanding the importance of rules and laws is a cornerstone of our curriculum. Students are taught about the reasons behind laws, the responsibilities they entail, and the consequences of breaking them. Our annual 'Bootcamp' focuses on rules that protect and promote a safe and productive learning environment.

In Years 5 and 6, we introduce a 'classroom economy' system that mirrors the British legal framework. Using the Squirrel online platform, students engage in a reward-and-consequence behaviour system based on financial incentives and penalties, helping them appreciate the relationship between laws, responsibility, and accountability.

## **Individual Liberty**

We are committed to creating a learning environment that empowers students to become resilient and independent thinkers. By setting high expectations and encouraging personal goal-setting, we nurture their ability to make informed choices and take ownership of their learning.

Our school also fosters active citizenship through volunteering and philanthropy. For example, in 2023/24, Year 6 students developed a 'Legacy' fund through enterprise projects, using the proceeds to enhance the school environment. These initiatives instill a sense of responsibility and encourage students to make meaningful contributions to their community.

## **Mutual Respect**

Respect is integral to our ethos and vision. Students are taught that their actions impact their own rights and the rights of others. Respect is reinforced across all areas of the curriculum, through our house system, Moral, Social and Cultural Studies (MSCS) programme, and assemblies. By embedding respect in every aspect of school life, we cultivate a culture of kindness and empathy.

## **Tolerance and acceptance of those with different cultures and beliefs**

With over 70 nationalities represented within our school community, we celebrate the rich diversity that defines our environment. We actively promote acceptance and understanding of different cultures and beliefs through a combination of curriculum content and additional initiatives.

Students engage in discussions on important cultural and social movements, such as Black Lives Matter, while also recognising and celebrating British institutions like the NHS, Police Force, and Armed Services, alongside their UAE counterparts. Whole-school assemblies, thematic days (e.g., International Day, Down Syndrome Awareness Day, and Type 1 Diabetes Day), and thoughtfully planned schemes of work foster tolerance and respect. Teachers ensure that SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social, and Cultural) development and British values are central to their planning.

At Victory Heights Primary School City of Arabia, we aim to provide our students with a strong foundation of values that will guide them in becoming responsible global citizens. By embedding British values throughout our curriculum and school culture, we prepare them to lead successful lives and contribute meaningfully to society.

## Monitoring and Compliance

The implementation and effectiveness of this policy will be monitored regularly in line with the Policy Review Policy. Updates and changes will be documented in the Version Control Table to ensure transparency and continuous improvement.

### Version Control Table

**Policy Title:** Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Policy

**Policy Owner:** Headteacher

**Last Approved By:** Primary Leadership Team

Version Number	Date Approved	Approved By	Changes Made	Next Review Date
1.0	January 2025	PLT	Initial policy release (2025 re-write)	January 2028