Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural (SMSC) Development in Physical Education

SPIRITUAL – Pupils develop their knowledge and understanding of the body’s performance when exercising; this leaves pupils amazed at the body’s ability. This is also linked to the Christian value ‘Endurance’, as pupils have to show endurance when exploring the body’s capabilities. Through Dance and sports such as Gymnastics pupils are being creative, expressing feelings and emotions in their performances. Allowing pupils’ reflection time to evaluate their experiences allows them to build a positive mindset and promotes progression. Pupils will also see a sense of awe and wonder when observing elite performance from professional athletes and their peers.

MORAL – Living a healthy lifestyle and promoting healthy living is apparent in each P.E lesson at Woodchurch. Pupils develop the ability to tell between right and wrong through fair play in sporting events and participating in competitive situations, giving pupils a sense of justice, and how to respond appropriately when they feel there is an injustice. The frequent opportunity given to pupils to umpire and referee supports the importance of abiding by rules. Pupils are challenged to consider ethical and moral issues by discussing the use of enhancement drugs in sport and how fair or unfair this may be.

SOCIAL – The nature of PE allows all pupils to develop the necessary skills to work in teams or pairs, as the majority of activities are based around team games or creating sequences in groups, co-operation with others is paramount to success. Giving the pupils roles such as leaders, coaches, or umpires, and offers pupils the opportunity to develop their communication skills, leadership skills and the ability to settle any discrepancies which may occur. Pupils are encouraged to reflect upon feelings of enjoyment and determination.

CULTURAL – Pupils are given the opportunity to explore dances and learn games from different traditions and cultures including their own, such as the Hacka, Irish dancing, Bollywood Indian inspired dance, and the Lindy Hop. Pupils also recognise and discuss the differences between male and female roles within sport, at both elite and amateur levels. Compassion and respect for other culture and traditions is also displayed by all when exploring unfamiliar games or dances. Pupils will discuss how culture affects what sports different nations excel at and how cultural traditions can affect which sports men and women participate in.

Specific examples of Spiritual, Moral Social and Cultural Develop in Physical Education include:

- Pupils learning to cope with both success and defeat with dignity.
- Pupils discussing learning objectives and reflect upon issues as well as listening to others opinions.
- Strategies and tactics being introduced to pupils
- The role of coaches, leaders, and umpires are used to develop pupils’ sense of right and wrong.
- Pupils witnessing positive behaviour in PE and are allowed the opportunity to reflect upon the need for rules and fair play.
- Pupils becoming aware of different cultural attitudes towards aspects of physical activity.
- Discovering the role of sport and dance within society including learning dances and games from different traditions.
- Pupils learning to cope with their emotions in socially acceptable way during competitive situations.