



φύσις

Physis [fie-sis] a Greek word meaning the natural energy for growth, change and development.

2018

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Policy



The Quantum Leap Programme at Physis Heathgates Academy

*Physis Quantum is a specialist provider of exciting and innovative services to
Children and Young People in a variety of different settings.*

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Physis Heathgates Academy

(Part of The Physis Group)

phadmin@physisgroup.co.uk

www.physisgroup.co.uk

Physis Heathgates Academy recognises that the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) elements of a pupil's education are crucial to their development as an individual, as it allows them to take their rightful place in their community as a local, national and global citizen.

As part of their medium and short term planning all teachers in all subjects' plan to include SMSC into their lessons. (See schemes of work and SMSC monitoring grid)

SMSC is about the values pupils are encouraged to hold, and their attitude towards learning, knowledge and society. At Physis, we promote SMSC in the following ways:

1. SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Spiritual development is concerned with how a Physis pupil develops:

An ability to be reflective about their own beliefs, religious or otherwise, that inform their perspective on life and their interest in and respect for different people's faiths, feelings and values

A sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them

A use of imagination and creativity in their learning

A willingness to reflect on their experiences.

Spiritual development is personal and unique to each individual. It is about the meaning in life, truth and developing a set of core values. It includes imagination, inspiration and creativity and it also covers an awareness of self-identify and self-worth.

Physis Heathgates Academy promotes spiritual development as part of pupils' personal development through:

- The Academy Rewards and Consequences system
- Religious Education
- All subjects of the curriculum, e.g. humanities – learning about the world around them
- Assemblies, e.g. Positives of the week
- The ethos of the school values, attitudes and expectations'

e.g. high expectations of all

pupils to be respectful, i.e. respect points system

- Opportunities for reflection on aspects of their lives, e.g. PSHE lessons
- Wonder at the natural world and human achievement, e.g. Off-site visits

2. MORAL DEVELOPMENT

Moral development is concerned with pupils' knowledge, understanding, intentions, attitudes and behaviour in relation to right and wrong within the accepted codes of practices of society. The quality of relationships that pupils experience, the standards of behaviour in the academy as well as the values promoted by the academy's code of conduct will form the basis of any judgment on moral development as well as the extent to which pupils show:

An ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong, readily apply this understanding in their own lives and, in so doing, respect the civil and criminal law of England

An understanding of the consequences of their behaviour and actions

An interest in investigating and offering reasoned views about moral and ethical issues, and being able to understand and appreciate the viewpoints of others on these issues.

Physis Heathgates Academy is a social organisation and its functioning depends on the broad acceptance of rules, codes of conduct and a behaviour and discipline policy based on a clear set of moral principles. The academy has a clear set of aims, values and expectations which are shared with parents/carers, corporate parents, staff and pupils including:

- Respecting the rights and property of others
- Respecting the beliefs and practices of others in a multicultural society
- Taking responsibility for one's own actions
- Being considerate towards other people and demonstrating good relationships
- Honesty
- Self-discipline

The essence of moral behaviour is to build a framework of values which regulate personal behaviour through principles rather than fear of punishment or reward. The academy's values (Respect, Responsibility and Relationships) provide the framework for our pupils to develop their attitudes and understanding on morality and develop the self-confidence to hold to this code of values against a variety of pressures. Moral development is about understanding the principles and social values behind actions and decisions. At Physis Heathgates Academy we strongly and fairly act upon any incidences of:

- Bullying
- Cheating
- Deceit
- Cruelty
- Irresponsibility
- Dishonesty
- Obscenity
- Intolerance including racism and homophobia

At Physis Heathgates Academy we promote moral development through a range of activities and opportunities both within and outside the classroom such as:

- Working with teachers to teach and promote understanding of morality
- Assemblies
- Rewards and Consequences
- Welfare and guidance
- Core curriculum including Religious Education

3. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Pupils' social development is shown by their:

use of a range of social skills in different contexts, including working and socialising with pupils from different religious, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds
willingness to participate in a variety of communities and social settings, including by volunteering, cooperating well with others and being able to resolve conflicts effectively (standard 5 1A (iii) reaches beyond the school itself or any particular faith community; it refers to local, national and global society. Schools should ensure that pupil interaction with the world outside the school has that wider focus.) Physis aims to ensure that this is met by involving the children in community work via work experience programmes and ASDAN as well as other cross curricular activities acceptance and engagement with the fundamental [British values](#) of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs; the pupils develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.

The Academy systematically plans for social development of pupils through a range of teaching and learning activities including:

- Classroom organisation and management
- Pupil grouping and opportunities for group work when this is considered to be appropriate
- The school code of conduct
- Residential trips
- Enrichment activities – via the care team as well as within the school time
- Work experience programmes

4. CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Pupils' cultural development is shown by their:

understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage and that of others

understanding and appreciation of the range of different cultures within school and further afield as an essential element of their preparation for life in modern Britain

knowledge of Britain's democratic parliamentary system and its central role in shaping our history and values, and in continuing to develop Britain
willingness to participate in and respond positively to artistic, sporting and cultural opportunities
interest in exploring, improving understanding of and showing respect for different faiths and cultural diversity, and the extent to which they understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity, as shown by their tolerance and attitudes towards different religious, ethnic and socio-economic groups in the local, national and global communities.

A pupil's cultural development refers to an increasing understanding of the values, beliefs, customs, knowledge and skills which link groups together and give people a sense of identity. At Physis Heathgates Academy we seek to develop in pupils an understanding and awareness of their culture within a multi-cultural society and encourage personal values and self-esteem. The curriculum provides experiences of all aspects of culture for pupils including languages, aesthetic, mathematical, literacy, technological, scientific, musical, political, economic and religious education; and has a specific role in supporting the teaching and learning for pupils about cultural diversity through the curriculum.

In addition to this many of the pupils take part in an accredited life skills programme (ASDAN), which incorporates a range of SMSC learning, e.g. Modules on The Community and

BRITISH VALUES VIA SMSC

At Physis Heathgates Academy the pupils will gain a thorough understanding of British Values via the SMSC curriculum. This will:

- Enable students to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence
- Enable students to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England
- Encourage students to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely
- Enable students to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England
- Further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling students to acquire an appreciation for and respect for their own and other cultures
- Encourage respect for other people, and
- Encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.
- Encourage respect for other people, paying particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

This policy will be implemented by the teaching staff and monitored by the Head Teacher following consultation with the teaching team and the analysis of the pupil's work three times per year, along with reference to the SMSC regulations 2014. Its effectiveness will then be evaluated and reported to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) on an annual basis at the start of each calendar year.

ADDENDUM

As of June 2017 Physis started a new programme called The Quantum Leap Programme. Many parts of the SMSC curriculum are covered as part of this programme – see QLP Policy, schemes of work and evaluations.

Also, in 2017 a British Values week was included in Semester 7.

Assemblies also included a range of SMSC and British Values topics.

The Physis Group (GB) Ltd Registered Office: The Manse, Dodington, Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 1DZ.