

## **Integrating SMSC in the English Curriculum**

The English curriculum at Childwall CE provides several opportunities for children to develop spiritually, morally, socially and culturally, from Reception to Year 6. Some of these ways are outlined below.

From their earliest days at school, teaching staff aim to inspire awe and a love of learning through 'wow' moments and creative 'hooks' to encourage writing and reading.

Class libraries, and the school library, contain numerous texts and poems from other cultures, thus giving pupils the opportunity to compare their own culture and community with those which are different. This assurance that children will explore diverse texts from a range of other countries also provides opportunity for children to address issues of racial discrimination.

Furthermore, children encounter a wide range of texts in their reading comprehension and novel study lessons which address and provide opportunities to challenge further discriminatory issues and stereotypes with regards to age and gender.

All teaching staff are encouraged to seek appropriate cultural experiences for the children in their class, such as theatre trips, visiting storytellers and plays, instilling an early love for culture.

As children read a wide variety of stories from different authors, they are given the opportunity to develop empathy for characters and understand the feelings and emotions of them in the text. As children progress through the school, and their writing becomes longer and more detailed, they are supported in developing their own characters and exploring ways in which they can evoke readers' emotions.

Pupils are also encouraged to make reasoned judgements on moral dilemmas that occur in texts, and discuss them, both in a written and oral manner. When discussing such issues, children are encouraged to use Socratic language and follow the customs and traditions of debating societies, listening to each others' viewpoints and stating their viewpoints and arguments respectfully and eruditely.

Older classes also cover the topic of persuasive writing and advertisements, thinking through the consequences of actions – e.g. advertising, charitable campaigns or sensationalism in the media. Intangible concepts such as love, beauty and nature in poetry are explored through figurative language and imagery.