



1decision and SMSC



Personal, Social, Health & Economic Education



Which Areas of SMSC Development Does 1decision Cover?

Maintained schools have an obligation under section 78 of the Education Act (2002) to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental (SMSC), and physical development of pupils at the school and in society, through a broad and balanced curriculum.

Section 78 outlines that:

Please note: areas highlighted in grey are not covered within the 1decision bank of resources.

The spiritual development of pupils is shown by their:

- 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
- sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them
- use of imagination and creativity in their learning and willingness to reflect on their experiences.

The moral development of pupils is shown by their:

- ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong and to readily apply this understanding in their own lives, recognise legal boundaries and, in so doing, respect the civil and criminal law of England
- understanding of the consequences of their behaviour and actions
- interest in investigating and offering reasoned views about moral and ethical issues and ability to understand and appreciate the viewpoints of others on these issues.

The social development of pupils is shown by their:

- use of a range of social skills in different contexts, for example working and socialising with other pupils, including those 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
- 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; they develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.

The cultural development of pupils is shown by their:

- understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage and those 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, musical, 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 socioeconomic groups in the local, national and global communities.

Gaining the SMSC Quality Mark

The SMSC Quality Mark has been developed by a working group comprised of educational consultants, staff from the Citizenship Foundation, Headteachers, and teachers. It has been piloted by a range of schools who found the experience very useful.

This working group ensures that children and young people are able to make a positive difference to the society in which they live - locally, nationally, and globally. They do this by helping them develop knowledge, skills, and confidence.

The 1decision resources support schools in achieving the SMSC Quality Mark: <https://www.smscqualitymark.org.uk/>

