

Dated August 2016

Islamia Girls School/Brondesbury College "The School"

Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural (SMSC) Policy

**CONTENTS**

<b>CLAUSE</b>		<b>PAGE</b>
1	OVERVIEW .....	2
2	SPIRITUAL AND MORAL DEVELOPMENT.....	2
3	SOCIAL AND CULTURAL EXPLORATION .....	3
4	TOLERANCE AND RESPECT .....	4

## 1. Overview

- 1.1. *O mankind! Behold, We have created you all out of a male and a female, and have made you into nations and tribes, so that you might come to know one another... (49:13).* Based on the universal message of peace and respect promoted by the Quran, the School recognises the importance of encouraging students to understand that differences should be embraced and respected.
- 1.2. The School promotes an Islamic ethos based on its mission statement and the context of this policy lies in Islamic values of respect, harmony and tolerance
- 1.3. The School aims to support the personal development of each student spiritually, morally, socially and culturally through the curricular and non-curricular activities
- 1.4. This is a whole School policy and permeates the entire School culture and its ethos. This policy will therefore be supported through the different areas of the curriculum
- 1.5. The School will have a SMSC coordinator. Please ask the School office for the staff member who holds this position

*This policy should be read in conjunction with the Anti-Bullying Policy, Curriculum Policy, Safeguarding Policy, SRE Policy, Behaviour & Reward Policy and Widening Horizons Policy.*

## 2. Spiritual and Moral Development

- 2.1. The School will provide an environment where students explore and have the freedom to develop their own beliefs whilst understanding that they are all equal, unique and valuable individuals each with different and valid viewpoints
- 2.2. The School recognises that positive encouragement, appreciation and respect lead to more contented, wholesome students which play a significant part in their ability to learn and achieve
- 2.3. Through RS, students will learn about the integrity and spirituality of their own faith and the importance in Islam of respect of other faiths and belief systems
- 2.4. The School promotes personal responsibility and accountability through its support of the Student Council. The Council is a representative structure for students only with participants from all classes, through which they become involved in the affairs of the School, working in partnership with Senior Leadership Team, Teachers, and parents for the benefit of the School and its students
- 2.5. Through the Student Council, School Prefects and Head Girls/Boys, students will have the opportunity to have their voices heard and valued. Students will be encouraged to build their self-confidence, develop their own personal voice

and views whilst recognising that others may hold an alternative view that is equally acceptable

- 2.6. The School operates a House System which encourages negotiation, cooperation and teamwork in a variety of scenarios across the School, from sporting activities, School plays to curriculum based projects
- 2.7. Through the House system and through continuous reinforcement by teachers, students will learn about responsibility and leadership. They will be encouraged to take responsibility for initiatives they are interested in. Students will be encouraged to work together and will be taught that through coordination, teamwork and critical thinking, they can bring about positive changes to the School and the community with organisation and determination
- 2.8. The Students through assemblies, external speakers, and the promotion of themed days (such as Human Rights Day or Peace Day), will be exposed to the diversity of society and issues facing the modern world. Students will be encouraged to do personal research, ask questions and seek information from a variety of sources and explore how they can contribute positively to society

### **3. Social and cultural exploration**

- 3.1. The School recognises that students come from a variety of different backgrounds and cultures which adds to the richness and diversity of the School environment
- 3.2. Through the RS curriculum and PSHE, students will learn about the integrity and spirituality of other faiths, and will be expected and taught to respect those of other belief systems
- 3.3. Students will at all times be taught to respect the law and not do anything unlawful, illegal or criminal. If students are unsure of anything, or are facing pressure, they are encouraged to speak to their Form Tutor in confidence, who will deal with the matter appropriately
- 3.4. The School will plan trips to a variety of places of interest including historical sites, museums, galleries and parliament. Students, through subjects such as History, English and Geography, will gain a broad general knowledge of public services and institutions in England
- 3.5. Students will be taught through PSHE that as British citizens; they must respect the laws. Furthermore, students will be taught that to be a good Muslim and to be a good citizen is one and the same thing, as to be a good Muslim, a person must have a positive and healthy attitude and contribute positively to society

#### **4. Tolerance and Respect**

- 4.1. The School positively encourages tolerance and respect for other faiths and cultures. The School through its curricular programmes ensure students engage with Schools of different faiths and engage in interfaith programmes. This is done throughout a student's time at the School, in all year groups.
- 4.2. In the event that a student displays any intolerant ideals involving illegal, violent, prejudiced or disrespectful attitudes, whether it is based on ethnicity, colour, religion, beliefs, creed, appearance, tradition, accent, language etc. will be dealt with accordingly and may be excluded temporarily or permanently from the School.

