



# One Degree Academy

## SMSC POLICY

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## 1. Introduction

1.1 At One Degree Academy, we understand our statutory duty to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of students. We seek to prepare students at the academy for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of university, employment and later life.

We seek to develop well-rounded individuals who can engage in civic life, adding value to communities and society as a whole. One Degree Academy is clear in its duty to:

- Encourage students to respect specified fundamental British values
- Not promote extremist views, or partisan political views, through their curriculum and/or teaching
- Offer students a balanced presentation of views when political issues are brought to their attention

It is our intention to create good local, national and global citizens, who develop firm moral character, resilience and grit.

## 2. Vision, Values and Ethos

2.1 Our vision is rooted in the development of SMSC. We aim that through inspirational teaching and incremental improvement, every One Degree Academy student will develop the knowledge, attributes and cultural capital to succeed at university, enjoy a productive career and lead a fulfilled life.

### 3 things we aim for our students:

1. University offer letter
2. Employable in a productive career
3. Tools for a fulfilled life

### 3 ways we'll help to get them there:

1. Great teaching and learning
2. Persistent focus on character skills
3. Raising aspirations through links to universities, businesses and cultural experiences

2.2 At One Degree Academy, no matter how hard it gets, we always STRIVE for excellence, step by step.

- Scholarship - we focus relentlessly on academic achievement, great learning and continuous improvement to get results. We show a zest for new learning.
- Teamwork - we work together to overcome difficulties. When one of us succeeds, we all do.
- Responsibility - we take ownership of our actions, caring for each other and for our environment. We look to ourselves to do what's right or to find solutions.
- Integrity - we are honest, kind and open with our community in everything we do. We treat everyone as we want to be treated: with respect.
- Value - we are useful and kind, adding what we do to the conversation of humanity. We embrace new opportunities to develop wisdom.

- Effort - we never give up on trying to improve - even when it's hard. We know there are no shortcuts: achievement comes step-by-step.

### 3. Curriculum

3.1 Students learn about the key concepts, knowledge and big ideas which have come to shape the world we live in. Our curriculum, delivered in individual subject disciplines, is reverse engineered from university readiness at 18. We plan the concepts and knowledge required for success at A level and beyond and teach students age-appropriate 'junior versions' of these big ideas in each subject discipline in each year.

We believe that knowledge without character is pointless. Integrity at ODA means that we believe in the whole child and their cultural, social, emotional, physical and spiritual development. This is achieved through our unique **STRIVE character curriculum** and our **Cultural Enrichment curriculum**.

3.2 At One Degree Academy, we recognise the importance of specifically teaching SMSC education to our children and it therefore features in every curriculum area.

3.3 Details of this provision are specified and published with the curriculum on our website.

### 4. Spiritual Development

4.1 Spiritual development is not the imposition of a religious faith or to religion in general. However, spiritual development may lead to the acceptance of a faith or it may not. The development of an individual's own personal spirituality is a journey or a quest which seeks to know, develop and understand one's own inner self.

4.2 At One Degree Academy, we will encourage children's spiritual development by:

- giving children the opportunity to explore values and beliefs, including religious beliefs, and the way in which they impact on peoples' lives;
- encouraging children to explore and develop what animates themselves and others;
- giving children the opportunity to understand human feelings and emotions, the way they impact on people and how an understanding of them can be helpful;
- developing a climate or ethos within which all children can grow and flourish, enjoying individual liberty and mutual respect;
- accommodating difference and respecting the integrity of individuals, including tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs;
- promoting learning opportunities which value children's questions, encourage deeper questions and give them space for their own thoughts, ideas and concerns;

### 5. Moral Development

5.1 At One Degree Academy, we aim to enable students to build a framework of moral values which regulates their personal behaviour. We also help them to understand the expectations of society's shared and agreed values, including democracy, justice and the rule of law and how these change over time. We recognise the need to help our students to balance their right to an opinion and to freedom of speech, with their respect and tolerance of others' values and beliefs.

5.2 At One Degree Academy, we will encourage children's moral development by:

- providing opportunities for reflection and the development of their own opinions;
- helping them to recognise and resolve the moral issues and dilemmas implicit in a given context;
- enabling them to make and act upon informed choices, taking right and wrong into account;
- understanding that there are issues where there is disagreement or conflict and respecting others' views;
- encouraging them to take pride in themselves and their work;
- developing the personal skills and qualities necessary to manage situations, such as being able to:
  - make decisions;
  - reflect on and change personal behaviour;
  - resist peer pressure;
  - show respect and compassion for themselves, others and the environment;
  - challenge behaviour which does not reflect this code, such as dishonesty, injustice, discrimination and the misuse of power;
  - abide by "fair play", being good winners and losers, in games, rules and life.

## 6. Social Development

6.1 At One Degree Academy, we attempt to develop in our children a growing understanding of the part that they play within the academy community and wider society, both now and in the future. Through their social development, we encourage children to relate positively to others, participate fully in the community and develop an understanding of good citizenship.

6.2 At One Degree Academy, we will encourage children's social development by:

- developing an understanding and respect of others, their opinions, beliefs and customs;
- developing an understanding of society's institutions, structures and characteristics, including democracy and the rule of law.
- encouraging them to have a sense of pride in their community;
- nurturing the development of the inter-personal skills necessary for successful relationships.
- helping them to use restorative approaches with their peers increasingly independently;
- encouraging them to think about the impact of their own and others' actions on others;
- developing good teamwork skills through opportunities to co-operate and share;
- expecting good manners and courteous behaviour;
- providing opportunities for children to develop self-confidence;
- providing opportunities for the development of interpersonal skills.

## 7. Cultural Development

7.1 Cultural development at One Degree Academy is about children understanding and appreciating their own culture and other cultures in their community, Britain and throughout the world. It is an exploration of how we are the same and how we are different; how we came to be the way we are and how we are changing. Cultural development at our academy is key to developing community cohesion and pride as well as curiosity and wonder at the world. Promoting students' cultural development is intimately linked with the academy's attempts to value cultural diversity and prevent racism.

7.2 At One Degree Academy, we will encourage children's cultural development by:

- helping children to understand and feel comfortable in a variety of cultures and be able to operate in
- the emerging world culture of shared experiences provided by television, travel and the internet;
- helping children to understand that cultures are always evolving and coping with change;
- providing students with the knowledge of and appreciation of the key features of their own cultural traditions and practices and of other major cultural groups within their own community and the wider world;
- developing an understanding of, as well as celebrating and embracing, the diversity of cultural, spiritual, social and moral traditions and practices within their community and the wider world;
- developing the knowledge, skills, understanding, qualities and attitudes they need to understand, appreciate and contribute to culture in the form of music, art, drama, literature and faith;
- providing opportunities to nurture the cultural development of our children in all creative areas across the curriculum;
- encouraging a personal response to a range of cultural activities;
- exposing children to a wealth of stimuli from their own culture and those of others, taught through
- the whole curriculum with visits and visitors to support this teaching;
- encouraging participation in and appreciation of the wealth of cultural traditions and the beliefs associated with different communities.

## 8. Opportunities to develop SMSC at One Degree Academy

8.1 Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and education is a key part of both the core and extended curriculum at ODA. Every opportunity is taken for students to be reflective about their own beliefs and others', develop a moral purpose, use and develop a range of social skills and understand and respect a full range of cultural influences.

8.2 Some of the many ways we promote the development of these areas are:

### Enrichment:

- A diverse and constantly updated enrichment curriculum. Our enrichment curriculum includes extensive careers information, advice and guidance that includes financial education delivered through partnerships with organisations and companies
- Assemblies and daily reflections covering current affairs, historical events, politics, religion and financial literacy
- A range of guest speakers representing different backgrounds, sectors, religions, values and communities (please see full rota for guest speakers) to develop cultural literacy.
- Close work with local residents and their families and provide extra-curricular activities open to all of our students (please see list of all services provided)
- Through engagement with the local community with local residents invited into the academy for family dining lunches and other events
- A wide range of academy trips
- Opportunities for student leadership
- A relentless focus and understanding of our academy values which are constantly and consistently referred to and encouraged.
- A focus on British values with family style dining at lunchtimes with a range of professional visitors who are invited to the academy to dine with the students for VIP lunch
- Weekly British Values assembly from Year 1 to Year 6
- Students volunteering projects to support other members of the community. e.g. students reading with lower age academy students

### Curriculum

- Cross-Curricular coverage of the following topics in Science: relationship and sex education
- Cross-curricular coverage in PE, importance of physical activity and diet for a healthy lifestyle