Spiritual Development

Spiritual development in English involves children exploring the meanings of different books and texts and empathising with characters facing problems within their lives. The novels and texts that pupils study have been carefully selected so that they not only engage with the ideas but the emotional journey of the characters involved. There is the opportunity for the children to reflect on their personal lives through text types such as diaries and biographies, and to enhance their emotional understanding through the widening of their vocabulary. Some examples that you may see in class: - Drama / acting in role as different characters - Writing in role - Working as a team to problem solve - Empathising with characters through a range of activities.

Moral Development

Moral development involves children analysing the dilemmas many characters face in the books and texts, as well as searching for hidden messages.

In the younger year groups, we aim to teach and recognise morals, such as the way we treat others, by reading a range of books and understanding the message they are trying to teach us.

In the older year groups, we aim to teach and recognise more complex moral dilemmas and ways to overcome or deal with them. We achieve this by giving children the opportunity to explore the motives of particular characters and certain issues both verbally and in their writing.

Social Development

Social development in English involves pupils developing their ability to learn as a team, valuing active listening and taking on a responsibility within a group. We read novels and short stories that offer perspectives on society and the community and how it impacts on our lives. In taking different roles in group discussions, pupils are introduced to ways of communicating fairly and effectively with each other. This also develops their confidence and knowledge of language, which is an important aspect of individual and social identity.

We enable children to understand and engage with the feelings and values embodied within poetry, fiction, drama, film and television. Our use of a variety of sources helps children to understand how language, values and views have changed over time.

SMSC in English
at Summercourt

Cultural Development

Cultural development involves engaging with texts from other cultures in order to expand pupils' exposure and awareness of other backgrounds. Through imaginative writing, poetry, imagery, drama, role play, myth and historical narrative, the children explore the viewpoints and attitudes of those from other cultures as well as their own. Pupils are given the opportunity to compare their own culture and community with ones that are different. Pupils are also encouraged to have a cultural awareness through theatre trips, visits to other locations and the exploration of other media.