



Governors' Committee Responsible:	Curriculum Committee
Nominated Lead Member of Staff:	Deputy Headteacher
Status & Review Cycle:	Non-Statutory Three yearly
Next Review Date:	November 2020
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The school policy is directed by the requirements of the Education Reform Act (ERA) 1988 and the 1996 Education Act.

1. SPIRITUAL and MORAL DEVELOPMENT

Purpose:

To provide a coherent moral and spiritual dimension to the educational programme provided at Ash Manor School. This will be achieved by the following means:

- i) to include the following agreed statement in the school prospectus:
"The school recognises the importance of moral and spiritual values which are an integral part of society. It aims to enable pupils to understand the distinctive nature of religion and the contribution of religious and spiritual insights to people's search for meaning in life. We will provide information and educational experiences to enable pupils to make considered decisions about faith and religious commitment through discussion, outside speakers, visits, cross curricular involvement and extra-curricular activities. We expect that pupils will respect the rights of others to hold alternative beliefs and will be tolerant of those views. Our philosophy is to be sensitive to pupils' religious beliefs and to educate not indoctrinate."
- ii) to endorse those universal values of honesty, courtesy, self-discipline, self-esteem, respect for others, etc.
- iii) to ensure a balanced consideration (fact/opinion, subjectivity/objectivity, specialist view/popular views, etc) of such social issues as drugs, smoking, alcohol, abortion, corporal punishment, capital punishment, civil liberties, etc.
- iv) to emphasise the importance of spiritual values through an appropriate range of experiences and information.

2. COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Purpose:

- i) to maintain the present pattern of provision of assemblies
- ii) to ensure that those assemblies which are held do meet the spirit as well as the intention of the ERA 1988. This recommendation to apply to a house group as well as to school assemblies.

3. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Purpose:

The policy is to meet the full statutory requirements of RE.

- i) In Years 7 and 8 students have one lesson per week of discrete Religious education. Some aspects of the locally agreed syllabus are delivered through PSHE.
- ii) In Years 9, 10 and 11 students have the option of studying for a full GCSE in Religious education. All students have access to aspects of Religious education through personal development days and assemblies.

In accordance with ERA 1988 and the 1996 Act, parents may withdraw their children from collective worship and religious education on grounds of conscience. Such requests must be made to the Headteacher and appropriate arrangements made for the registration/supervision of such students.