

# **Impington Village College**

## ***Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education***

### **Policy**

### **2019 - 2020**

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# SMSC, IB and BV

## *Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education • International Baccalaureate, Learner profile • British Values*

Impington Village College is a non-denominational, non-faith academy, proud to be an IB world school since 1991.

Our vision:

- Impington Village College aspires to be an outstanding and innovative learning community that is truly inclusive, inspirational and international

And our Mission is to be:

- Inclusive, a welcoming place that celebrates difference and diversity.
- Inspirational, providing a unique experience and a world-class education for all.
- International, promoting positive values to secure a better future for its students as both local and global citizens.

Our vision and mission take as their starting point the belief that education is about the whole child and not simply academic outcomes. For this reason, education at Impington is characterised by fantastic opportunities for all to experience spiritual, moral, social and cultural learning (SMSC) and develop the characteristics of the IB learner profile.

[<https://www.ibo.org/benefits/learner-profile>]

Our teaching encourages students to be fascinated about the diversity of the world around them and passionate to find out more. As an IB school we value inquiry and reflection and encourage students to be open minded. This is essential in **spiritual education** which includes inspiration, imagination and creativity; awe and wonder about the world in which we live. We want students to be reflective about their personal beliefs and understand how the beliefs (religious and otherwise) of others might affect an outlook on life. We believe that students should develop knowledge of and respect for religious and moral traditions as a part of their 'spiritual' education.

The way we teach demonstrates aspects of **moral education**. We teach our students to respect themselves and others and we demonstrate that our firm boundaries have consequences when they are overstepped. As an IB world school we value being principled and encourage a caring attitude in our students. This is a key part of British values. Lessons frequently address moral issues and encourage students to engage in debate while developing the rationale for their own stance. House activities encourage charity work and iCAS gives specific opportunity for students to explore moral issues through service. A strongly inclusive community, IVC welcomes all students and strives for their success.

We take the **social development** of our students very seriously and are proud of our house system. Our pastoral system is based around four houses, which are like small communities within the school. Students enter into healthy competition with the others during the year in sporting and other inter-house competitions. Student voice, through year councils and iSLT (student leadership), contributes significantly to decision-making in the college. As an IB school we value high quality communication which is essential in social development. Lessons frequently include paired or grouped work to help students hone communication skills through discussion.

We are a diverse but exceptionally cohesive community, where both local and overseas students understand and demonstrate the values of British society. Our **cultural education** celebrates the diversity of backgrounds represented in our school population. Pastoral work in tutor time has included different languages and festivals as a starting point to recognise and celebrate our diversity. IVC has its own unique culture of inclusion, as promoted by the IB, valuing the attitude of 'international mindedness'.

We have maintained the breadth of our curriculum and cultural opportunities are available to all through option choices and extra-curricular participation—particularly through iCAS. In addition to this, the trips and opportunities offered contribute significantly to all aspects of SMSC education. Provision for SMSC can be identified in a number of distinct areas as well as being an essential part of everything that happens during a school day. These distinct areas are:

- The assembly and form time programme
- Our vision for learning: The Impington Experience
- Taught lessons in EPS, Individual and Societies and Approaches to Learning
- Extra-curricular opportunities and trips
- Annual celebration events such as the achievements evening