



SMSC Statement - Psychology

Spiritual Development in Psychology

Spiritual education in Psychology involves students having the opportunity to consider and discuss questions relating to all aspects of their development such as their personality, gender, behaviour, thoughts and beliefs. Students are encouraged to apply their own beliefs to a range of ethical and psychological issues, debates and controversies, and to hear other students' opinions to develop a range of balanced view points. Lessons are developed to allow opportunities for students to be creative and resilient and allow for development and reflection of their progress, supported by teacher feedback.

Examples of good practice:

- Studying the symptoms of mental illnesses. across cultures
- Creating and executing
- Exploring and debating the impact of individual differences.
- Assessing the extent and growth ethics with in Psychology and how it impacts how valuable a piece of research is.

Moral Development in Psychology

Moral education in Psychology involves students discussing values, attitudes and beliefs relating to a range of ethical, social and controversial issues. This includes areas of study on culture bias, ethical costs of conducting research, non-human animals, scientific status and sexism. Moral education spans across all areas of study in psychology with ethical issues being discussed and applied to a range of theories, studies, contemporary debates and applications for the various topics studied. In addition to this, students investigate ethical issues in detail- particularly when they study the Stanford Prison experiment.

Examples of good practice:

- Knowledge of possible ethical conflicts in research
- Examples of poor practice
- Knowledge of BPS guidelines
- SPE Experiment mock version by students.

Social Development in Psychology

Social education in Psychology involves students being encouraged to consider the values, attitudes and roles of people that occur in different societies and cultures. They will learn to respect and understand different human behaviours that occur in these cultures and

societies. Throughout Psychology students are led to work in different groupings, encouraging students to accept one another and learn to work alongside each another as a team.

Examples of good practice:

- Use statistical data to discuss mental illnesses and trends in society.
- Discuss conflict such as Nazi Germany and WW2 and impacts of destructive authority.
- Have external workshops delivering sessions on conflict and abuse of power: Solutions not Sides

Cultural Development in Psychology

Cultural education in Psychology involves students studying human behaviour in different cultures. Students will develop their understanding of and respect for the different influences people have and the effect it may have on their behaviour. They will also discuss how research carried out in traditional western societies may not be applicable to other cultures. Students will explore topics such as masculine and feminine behaviour and how that may be different in different cultures, looking in detail at culture bias and gender bias; studying different types of culture and cultural differences, ethnocentrism, androcentric, beta bias and alpha bias

Examples of good practice:

- Explore and debate the cultural differences in behaviour, mental illnesses, memory and aggression. Considering issues such as individual differences.
- Using statistics to make conclusions about trends in behaviour cross culturally.
- Explaining behaviour by looking at the role of physiological, psychological factors across cultures and how it influences socialisation.