



SMSC Wild Time at Blackwater School

What is SMSC?

It is the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development of the children in our school. This is not a separate subject that is taught explicitly but an aspect of learning that should be present in lessons and behaviour in school. We also aim to develop SMSC through worship, behaviour expectations and our attitudes in school. (Ofsted have provided definitions which are below)

How is SMSC linked to our Wild Time?

Our Wild Time encapsulates the ethos behind SMSC as it gives so many opportunities to develop these skills in the outdoor environment.

We endeavour to educate our children at Blackwater in the widest of senses, providing them with the tools to help them focus, concentrate, interact with others, regulate their emotions, build resilience and to help them deal with challenges they encounter.

We encourage our children to become responsible, independent and invested citizens in the world that they will grow up in.

Spiritual

We provide our students with opportunities to explore beliefs, feelings and values, to learn about themselves, others and the surrounding world, incorporating creativity and opportunities to reflect on their experiences.

We create opportunities for the children to practice mindfulness as well as reflecting on, considering and celebrating the wonders and mysteries of life. Our positive behaviour policy develops self-worth.

Practices	Wild Time Opportunity
✓ Using the outside environment for play and learn.	We use the Wild Area as a free space for children to play independently and directed. Children are taught about the outdoors through our skills progression.
✓ Explore aspects of nature such as seasons and weather.	We observe the trees and the environment changing through the seasons. All children have waterproofs so we are able to use our outside areas throughout the year, even in the rain!
✓ Learn about themselves, their bodies and their feelings.	The children take risks whilst in the wild area with tools, the parkour area, den making and generally being aware of the environment. Whilst taking these risks, children are experimenting with what their bodies can do and achieve. Practices such as mindful



Blackwater Community Primary School

	moments and pausing engages children to learn about how their bodies are feeling.
✓ Develop a sense of awe and wonder through first hand experiences	Through our Wild Area provision and learning, children are outside and in the natural environment, learning through play and direction. Awe and wonder is everywhere and we encourage our children to explore the possible meanings of spirituality.

Moral

We provide our children with opportunities to learn what is right and wrong and to respect the rules and the law and to understand consequences are a result of not following the moral line.

We develop moral understanding and problem solving through behaviour expectations (our High Five: Achieving, determined, responsible, respectful and safe). We look specifically at actions with moral dilemma and discuss with children to develop their understanding. Children are co-adventurers with the adults so they are given tools to support them for next time. We make sure the children understand the importance of listening to others.

Practices	Wild Time Opportunity
✓ recognise the difference between right and wrong and apply this understanding.	we have clear 'wild time' expectations, that are displayed and known by the children. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to be kind and respectful to people, plants and animals • To listen- to show respect, so that you know what to do and how to be safe • To be responsible- for your behaviour, your belongings and the wild area. • To be safe- remember how to be a risk manager
✓ develop an acceptance of other people.	we actively encourage 'being different' and having our own thoughts and rights, that passes down to tiny bugs, that we might not like the creature we see but we do not hurt them or destroy their home.
✓ understand the consequence of their behaviour and actions.	it is very clear that the 'high five' is held at all times and that there are set consequences in place, this is to provide safe boundaries for all. As safety is an expectation in the wild area, children know that if their behaviour is not safe, they cannot be in the wild area.



Blackwater Community Primary School

Social

In our outdoor learning we provide many opportunities to develop and learn social skills, helping them to cooperate, work as a team, listen to the viewpoints of others and resolve conflict.

Within the school we have social skills groups for social development. We have a clear restorative approach to support children to make good decisions. We develop an understanding of their individual and group identity, learning about service in the school and the wider community. We encourage collaborative learning at all times, with group and peer work.

Practices	Wild Time Opportunity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ use a range of social skills in different contexts 	<p>Through different activities and free exploration, our children can encounter a variety of situations that may challenge them in regards to their peers and the adults. We encourage our children to work together to find solutions, instead of providing solutions or removing conflict or frustrations to enable them to learn, whilst feeling supported and heard.</p> <p>At times we are busy and loud, and at others quiet and reflective or listening to our peers. It is an expectation that all are able to respond to these changes in pace, positively and respectfully.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ know that the rule of law protects the rights of individual citizens and is essential for their well-being and safety 	<p>The children are involved in discussions as to why we have expectations and rules and they are aware that these expectations keep them safe and protected to ensure maximum fun!</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ co-operate with others and be able to resolve conflicts effectively 	<p>Due to the fact that a lot of our learning is child led, there are many opportunities for disagreement and conflict as they become engrossed and driven by their own desires, we encourage positive co-operation and for the children to be able to see conflicts from each other's point of view and find solutions.</p>



Blackwater Community Primary School

Cultural

We encourage our children to learn about, be excited by and love, the world around them, noticing, and being excited by changes, differences and similarities, to look for the beauty in the everyday!

In our Wild time we encourage our children to explore different opportunities for making and appreciating art, music and creativity in the natural world, using resources around us or acknowledging those that naturally surround us.

The cultural development of our children is encouraged and supported at all times. We welcome and accept the cultural beliefs in others.

Practices	Wild Time Opportunity
✓ to understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity	we call on the diversity of nature to give the children visual and tactile examples of the beauty of diversity, the benefits of differences, how it is needed and should be celebrated. We can then reflect this into humanity and the necessity for diversity to encourage a natural understanding, understanding and respect.