

PSHE and Citizenship Policy

Introduction

This policy outlines the purpose, methods of delivery and content of Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) & Citizenship. PSHE & Citizenship is intended to reinforce habits of character, relational skills and the essential knowledge pupils need to lead stable, fulfilling, safe lives and become effective and responsible citizens.

Aims

The aims of our PSHE programme are:

- To identify, discuss and encourage pupils to develop numerous habits of character.
- To offer a programme of study that will focus on three core themes, of which there will be overlap and flexibility: health and wellbeing, relationships, living in the wider world.
- To develop sensitivity to the impact of behaviour and words upon others and so learn to put others needs above one's own.
- To form and maintain strong friendships.
- To encourage pupils to take an active role in society as future citizens.
- To develop a healthy lifestyle and keep themselves and others safe, with a particular regard to online safety (see our Safeguarding Policy and our Acceptable and Safe Use of Screens Policy).

Embedded PSHE & Citizenship Education

We aim to embed our PSHE and citizenship education into the fabric of the school culture and curriculum. The most effective intervention into a child's life to teach key life lessons and to help shape character happens at unexpected times. It requires teachers to be alert to habits of character and ways of conducting relationships and to intervene wisely at the right moment. PSHE and citizenship education is embedded into the life of the school in the following ways:

- Our Christian Ethos permeates the life of Heritage School, particularly the values that shape teacher expectations.
- In the Infant and Junior Schools habits are identified as the focus of discussion and comment. Teachers return to these habits in the classroom context repeatedly.
- Assemblies are occasions when key values and beliefs are discussed.
- Assemblies are also occasions where current events and political events are explored.
- Close monitoring takes place of interactions between children, at break times in particular.
- A discussion of core values arises naturally throughout the curriculum – as we discuss a text in literature or an episode in history, for example.
- Discussion of public institutions with which pupils must be familiar in order to be effective and responsible citizens will also be discussed across the curriculum and reinforce Fundamental British Values (see our Active Promotion of Fundamental British Values Policy).
- Community service: we regularly engage in community service activities as a way of teaching children to serve others and the wider community. Examples have included: supporting the food bank, collecting boxes for Operation Christmas Child; raising monies for various charities and picking litter in the community.
- For our Enrichment programme the police and other services have come to speak to the pupils.

PSHE & Citizenship Lessons

PSHE and citizenship education lessons are timetabled weekly or fortnightly in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. In Years 3+ we aim to have a formal PSHE/Citizenship lesson once per half-term. These

topics are detailed in our schemes of work. From Year 9, students have regular 'off timetable' sessions where PSHE and Citizenship issues are addressed.

In the context of citizenship education, teachers take care to ensure that curriculum materials are balanced and never partisan in nature, in keeping with our Active Promotion of Fundamental British Values Policy. We do not permit partisan political materials to be distributed to our students either at school or on outings. If an outside speaker happens to express partisan political views, steps are taken, either immediately or afterwards, to discuss the issues and redress the balance. Throughout, we want to create a context in which students feel safe freely to form their own views on political issues.

Authorised by	Jason Fletcher
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