

## PSHE DEPARTMENT: STATEMENT OF CURRICULUM INTENT

### INTENT

PSHE is an incredibly enriching subject for students. A key intention in our delivery of PSHE is to provide a safe environment where students feel able to participate in the lessons on a range of issues that affect, or may affect, them throughout their lives. In PSHE lessons the setting up of ground rules, reminding students of confidentiality issues and the encouragement of students to explore a range of attitudes through case studies help to provide an appropriate environment as well as develop empathy.

Teachers are aware of sensitive issues that may arise out of teaching and learning about RSE. The following are protocols for discussion based lessons with students:

- No one (teacher or student) will have to answer a personal question
- No one will be forced to take part in a discussion
- Meanings of words will be explained in a sensible and factual way
- Teachers may use their discretion in responding to questions and may say that the appropriate person to answer that question is the parent or any other trusted adult

As well as developing secure factual knowledge of moral and topical issues, we encourage students to ask deep and meaningful questions about their own worlds and the lives we share. We aim to develop attitudes of thoughtfulness and confidence about themselves - skills which are invaluable as they face the issues that are present in 21<sup>st</sup> century living.

Teachers in the PSHE department are passionate and dedicated in their commitment to provide an inclusive and nurturing environment for all students regardless of personal beliefs or views, while meeting the statutory HRSE requirements. All students are valued for their own personal beliefs and opinions and are encouraged to continue to develop their analytical and critical thinking to encourage academic progress.

The Programme of Study represents a clear coverage of the statutory guidance for RSE and Health Education. PSHE lessons offer a context through which students are provided with the skills, language and strategies necessary to manage these situations should they encounter them in their lives.

Each topic includes an end of unit assessment which includes both short and longer answer questions. This allows students to develop their extended writing from year 7 and demonstrate their range of knowledge and understanding of each unit.

#### Year 7

- Post Lockdown – Mental Well Being
- Healthy Lifestyle
- Relationships, Sexual Education

#### Year 8

- Post Lockdown Mental Well Being
- Protecting Yourself
- Diversity

#### Year 9

- Post Lockdown – Mental Well Being
- Careers

- Protecting Yourself

#### **What: - PSHE lessons...**

- Challenge pupils on unhealthy and exploitative relationships, both to safeguard them from being abused and prevent them from engaging in abusive behaviours themselves.
- Inform students about child safety online and offline
- Educate pupils about their health reduces risk-taking behaviours such as drug or alcohol addiction and improves diet and exercise levels, in turn boosting long-term life chances.
- Promote positive outcomes relating to emotional health while reducing stigma and helping pupils learn where to go if they have mental health concerns.
  - Promoting positive mental health among pupils.
  - Give pupils information on where to go if they are worried about their own mental health or that of a friend or family member.
  - Reduce mental health stigma by teaching about the issue openly and honestly
- Build pupils key skills and attributes for life and work the non-academic skills and attributes acquired through PSHE education have a positive impact on academic performance and life chances as well as being key to boosting the employability of school-leavers and improving social mobility.

#### **Why:**

- PSHE gives pupils the knowledge, skills, and attributes they need to keep themselves healthy and safe and to prepare them for life and work in modern Britain.
- Through PSHE pupils develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they need to manage their lives, now and in the future.
- These skills and attributes help pupils to stay healthy, safe and prepare them for life and work in modern Britain. PSHE education helps pupils to achieve their academic potential, and leave school equipped with skills they will need throughout later life.
- PSHE education helps pupils to develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they need to thrive as individuals, family members and members of society. From making responsible decisions about alcohol to succeeding in their first job, PSHE education helps pupils to manage many of the most critical opportunities, challenges and responsibilities they will face growing up.
- PSHE education is a vital part of their preparation for life.

#### **How: The PSHE Department...**

- Plan a programme which introduces new and more challenging learning, while building on what has gone before, which reflects and meets the personal developmental needs of the children and young people.
- Take a positive approach which does not attempt to induce shock or guilt but focuses on what children and young people can do to keep themselves and others healthy and safe and to lead happy and fulfilling lives.
- Offer a wide variety of teaching and learning styles within PSHE education, with an emphasis on interactive learning and the teacher as facilitator.
- Provide information which is realistic and relevant and which reinforces positive social norms.
- Encourage young people to reflect on their learning and the progress they have made, and to transfer what they have learned to say and to do from one school subject to another, and from school to their lives in the wider community.
- Recognise that the PSHE programme is just one part of what a school can do to help a child to develop the knowledge, skills, attitudes and understanding they need to fulfil their potential. Link the PSHE education programme to other whole school approaches, to pastoral support, and provide a setting where the responsible choice becomes the easy choice. Encourage staff, families and the wider community to get involved.
- Embed PSHE education within other efforts to ensure children and young people have positive relationships with adults, feel valued and where those who are most

vulnerable are identified and supported.

- Provide opportunities for children and young people to make real decisions about their lives, to take part in activities which simulate adult choices and where they can demonstrate their ability to take responsibility for their decisions.
- Provide a safe and supportive learning environment where children and young people can develop the confidence to ask questions, challenge the information they are offered, draw on their own experience, express their views and opinions and put what they have learned into practice in their own lives.



# PSHE KS3

