

PSHCE in Junior School

Aims and Objectives

Personal, social, health and citizenship education (PSHCE) enables children to become healthy, independent and responsible members of society. We encourage our pupils to play a positive role in contributing to the life of the school and the wider community. In so doing we help develop their sense of self worth. We teach them how society is organised and governed. We ensure that they experience the process of democracy in school through the school council. We teach them about rights and responsibilities. They learn to appreciate what it means to be a positive member of a diverse multicultural society.

The aims of personal, social and health education and citizenship are to enable the children to:

- Know and understand what constitutes a healthy lifestyle;
- Be aware of safety issues;
- Understand what makes for good relationships with others;
- Have respect for others;
- Be independent and responsible members of the school community;
- Be positive and active members of a democratic society;
- Develop self-confidence and self-esteem and make informed choices regarding personal and social issues;
- Develop good relationships with other members of the school and the wider community.

Teaching and Learning

All staff deliver PSHCE in the Curriculum. We use a range of teaching and learning styles. The Government's PSHCE education review concluded in March 2013, stating that the subject would remain non-statutory and that no new programmes of study would be published. The DfE has however stated as part of its national curriculum framework that 'All schools should make provision for PSHCE education, drawing on good practice'.

A major part of the PSHCE programme at Roedean Moira House is the Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL): a comprehensive approach to promoting social and emotional skills. SEAL provides an additional focus on managing uncomfortable emotions other than anger - for example anxiety, responses to bereavement and loss and coping with change. An explicit focus is placed on skills children need to be effective learners such as working, bouncing back after setbacks, setting goals and working towards them. Further to this a focus is placed on valuing others, responding to diversity and on reducing bullying.

We place an emphasis on active learning by including the children in discussions, investigations and problem solving activities. We encourage the children to take part in a range of practical activities that promote active citizenship e.g. charity fundraising, Guardian Angel/Buddy schemes, the planning of school special events such as an assembly or Pyramid events, or involvement in an activity to help other individuals or groups less fortunate than themselves such as visiting Carlisle Lodge. We organise classes in such a way that pupils are able to participate in discussion to resolve conflicts or set agreed classroom rules of behaviour. We offer children the opportunity to hear visiting speakers, such as health workers, police and representatives from local churches and charities, whom we invite to school to talk about their role in creating a positive and supportive local community.

The use of ICT is incorporated into the delivery of the curriculum, for example, pupils visit websites, create poster and record information. Online and digital safety is also a key element of the curriculum.



Curriculum Planning

We teach PSHCE in a variety of ways; as a discrete subject in Year 1 through to Year 5; through other subjects e.g. local environmental issues in Geography; through our religious education lessons; through our daily assemblies.

We also develop PSHCE through activities and whole school events e.g. the school council representatives from each class meet regularly to discuss school matters. We offer a residential visit to the Isle of Wight or France for Year 5 and 6 pupils, where there is a particular focus on developing pupils' self esteem and giving them opportunities to develop leadership and cooperative skills. A shorter but similar trip is offered to Year 3 & 4 pupils to Hindleap Warren.

We teach PSHCE in Reception classes as an integral part of the topic work covered during the year. As the Reception class follows the EYFS Curriculum, we relate the PSHCE aspects of the children's work to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals (ELGs). Our teaching in PSHCE matches the aim of developing a child's personal, emotional and social development as set out in the ELGs. We also support citizenship education in Reception classes when we teach 'how to develop a child's knowledge and understanding of the world'.

Resources

SEAL is used as a core scheme from Year 1 to 6 and is further backed up by the QCA units of work. To supplement this every class teacher has access to 'Telling Tales' and 'I am, I know, I can' which is kept in the Teacher's Resources Room together with a selection of reference materials. We have additional resources in the library.

Assessment and Recording

Teachers assess students' work in PSHCE by making informal judgements as they observe them during lessons. Pupils may keep a portfolio of their work, which is marked and a record kept by the teacher. We do not set formal examinations in PSHCE. The assessments that we made of pupil achievement do not imply that a pupil has 'passed' or 'failed'.



PSHCE in the Seniors and Sixth Form

Education is not simply about passing examinations: it is about equipping young people for the lives and society that they may encounter.

Citizenship gives pupils the knowledge, skills and understanding to play an effective role in society at local, national, and international levels. It helps them to become informed, thoughtful and responsible citizens who are aware of their duties and rights.

Overall Aim:

- Give students a background of knowledge and understanding in relation to personal, social and health education
- Encourage students to apply their knowledge and understanding in making decisions
- Promote self development, through encouraging students to be aware of their own strengths and areas for improvement, and the choices and opportunities available to them
- Develop their awareness of the influences on an individual's healthy and well -being and to highlight the importance of motivation and support when improving health.
- Enhance students' awareness of spiritual, moral, ethical, social, cultural, environmental and European issues, as appropriate.
- Provide knowledge and understanding about becoming informed citizens, developing skills of enquiry and communication and of participation and responsible action. (Upper Prep and Seniors)

Overall Teaching objectives:

- To set suitable learning challenges giving every pupil the opportunity to experience success in learning and to achieve as high a standard as possible.
- Respond to pupils diverse learning needs by
- a) Creating effective learning environment.
- b) Securing motivation and concentration
- c) Providing equality of opportunity through teaching approaches
- d) Using appropriate assessment approaches.
- e) Setting targets for learning.
- Overcome potential barriers to learning for individuals and groups of pupils.

Citizenship is incorporated into the RS schemes of work as discrete skills (eg democracy unit of work in Year 8, crime and punishment unit of work in Short Course GCSE which all students sit). e teach PSHCE in a variety of ways; as a discrete subject in Year 1 through to Year 6. PSHCE is taught as part of a carousel programme in Upper Prep and Seniors. In addition, the Skills Curriculum also incorporates key areas of the PSHCE curriculum in Upper Prep.

In addition to the carousel PSHCE mornings, many topics are supplemented in other curriculum areas, such as religion and philosophy, geography, science, IT and English. PSHCE sessions are also supplemented by the personal tutorial programme. During tutorial there is opportunity for students to have further talks as a year group. Careers programmes are delivered through PSHCE and tutorial time.

In the Seniors the students follow a course that aims to develop the students' life skills and prepare them for life after school. PSHCE in the Seniors takes place in the form of organised talks and workshops, in addition to the PSHCE tutorial sessions. A variety of aspects are covered such as study skills, stress management, alcohol and drugs awareness, sex and relationships, staying safe and personal finance.



Assessment

Students are occasionally asked to review and evaluate the curriculum for analysis by the Heads of Pastoral Care and Wellbeing. There is no formal academic assessment in PSHCE, it is seen as a learning experience, rather than a subject that can be passed or failed.

Role of the Head of Pastoral Care

The Director of Pastoral Care and Wellbeing support colleagues in the teaching of the subject by giving them information about current developments in the subject. The Heads of Section are responsible for monitoring the subject in their section of the school and providing required INSET.

Equal Opportunities

At school we teach PSHCE to all children. It forms part of the school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education to all children. Through our teaching we provide learning opportunities that enable all children to make progress. We do this by setting suitable learning challenges and responding to each child's different learning needs.

Health and Safety

Health and Safety issues include:

- Special care of some apparatus such as scissors are stored centrally in classrooms and returned after use;
- Where children are to participate in activities outside the classroom, we carry out a risk assessment prior to the activity to ensure that the activity is safe and appropriate for all pupils.

Related policies and documents

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies and documents:

Employee Handbook
Staff Handbook
Code of Conduct for Employees
Health Safety Handbook
Boarding Staff Handbook
National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools
ISI Handbook for the Inspection of Schools, Regulatory Requirements
Teachers' Standards
Departmental Handbook
Complaints Policy (Parents)
Complaints Policy (Pupils)



POLICY REVIEWED BY SCHOOL: June 2018

POLICY REVIEWED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL: September 2016

NEXT REVIEW: June 2019