

PSHE POLICY

Our Lady of the Visitation Catholic Primary School



Approved by: Maureen Gordon

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Next review due by: September 2020

Our Lady of the Visitation Catholic Primary School

Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHE) Policy

We Learn, Love and Grow Through Christ

At Our Lady of the Visitation Catholic Primary School we see Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHE) as being at the centre of all that we do. Through our curriculum, our school environment and our school ethos, we promote pupils' self-esteem and emotional well-being and help them to form and maintain worthwhile and satisfying relationships, based on respect for themselves and for others, at home, at school, at work and in the community.

1. Aims

The aims of PSHE are to enable the children to develop the skills, knowledge, understanding and attitudes they need to be able to:

- have respect for themselves and others, valuing the differences and similarities between people
- develop good relationships with other members of the school and wider community;
- be independent, self-disciplined and responsible members of society
- be positive and active members of a democratic society
- develop self-confidence and self-esteem, and make informed choices regarding personal and social issues
- know and understand what constitutes a healthy lifestyle
- be aware of safety issues and manage risk in their own lives

2. Curriculum organisation

- There will be a regular specific curriculum session, in order to develop themes and share ideas e.g. circle time. This lesson will follow the planned whole school scheme of work. Through this scheme of work, we cover the National Curriculum guidance for PSHE.
- In addition to this, PSHE is also taught within other subject areas and as part of cross-curricular projects: Science, Geography, RE, English and History.
- PSHE will also be addressed on a daily basis as questions and incidents arise. At times, teachers may choose to hold an additional Circle-time session in response to a particular event or issue.
- Whole school and class assemblies provide a daily opportunity to enhance pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, promoting our school's values and celebrating achievement.

Foundation Stage

We teach PSHE and Citizenship in the Foundation Stage as an integral part of the topic work covered during the year. We relate the PSHE and Citizenship aspects of the children's work to the areas of learning set out in the Foundation Stage guidance to develop a child's personal, emotional and social development. We also support Citizenship Education in the Foundation stage

through other areas of learning such as Knowledge and Understanding and Communication, Language and Literacy.

3. Teaching and learning strategies

A range of teaching and learning strategies are used:

- During timetabled PSHE time, an emphasis is placed on active learning through planned discussions, Circle-time, investigations, role-play activities, puppets, group-work and problem-solving.
- All teachers will endeavour to provide a safe learning environment through the establishment of clear Ground Rules which are made explicit to the children and reinforced consistently.
- Visiting speakers such as the police and health workers also contribute to the taught curriculum.
- Beyond timetabled PSHE lessons, pupils are supported in applying the skills they are learning, in real-life situations as they arise: e.g. resolving conflicts; working as part of a group on a project, being a member of a group e.g. The school council, choir.
- Children are encouraged to take part in a range of practical activities to promote active citizenship, e.g. charity fund-raising; the planning of special events at school; making class rules; school council meetings; recycling; and by taking on roles of responsibility for themselves, for others and for the school.

Within PSHE we recognise:-

- **Health Education** involves engaging the children in activities that promote their physical well-being and encouraging an adventurous approach to exercise, daily living, fresh air and exploration both in and out of school. In order to support this we are part of the Healthy Schools Initiative.
- **Citizenship** involves encouraging children to take a responsible role in society. It includes developing the children's awareness of their personal safety and the processes by which they can seek help and information as well as learning the behaviour expected of them as members of society. Being part of the Eco Schools Programme supports this learning.
- **Drugs Education** involves educating the children in the safe handling of medicinal drugs as well as the consequences of misusing substances such as alcohol, tobacco and recreational drugs. See Policy on Drug Education and Drug Incidents.
- **Sex Education** is taught as part of our Religious Education programme with a view to encouraging children to respond to the gift of being created male and female, with pride, and a commitment to follow God's plan for life and love. See Policy on Sex Education.
- **Emotional Literacy** involves equipping children with the environment and language to help them express their feelings as they interact with others and the world around them.
- At our school we believe that a **life skills** approach can be built on traditional life skills programmes and can effectively complement activities intended to enhance self-esteem, communication skills, values clarification and decision making.

4. Resources

Staff use the objectives from the QCA scheme of work to plan PSHE and Citizenship lessons. Staff have access to the LCP PSHE folders for Key Stage One and Two and the Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL) resources. The school has a range of books dealing with aspects of PSHE including bereavement, healthy food and making the correct choices. We also have a wide range of resources including all of the resources from the SEAL pack e.g. feelings fans.

5. Equal Opportunities

All children have an entitlement to access the PSHE curriculum. All children will have access to appropriate resources within the school. These will reflect a multi-cultural society, without stereotyping or discrimination. All children will be given the opportunity to participate in all activities regardless of gender, race or ability.

6. Community links

Working in partnership with parents and carers and with the wider school community is an essential element of PSHE. We seek to involve parents and keep them informed through our weekly newsletters and termly parental meetings. Parents are encouraged to come into school whenever they have any concerns or anything they would like to discuss with us. We foster links with the wider community through various activities such as our relationship with Our Lady of the Visitation Church.

7. Assessment, reporting and recording

Assessment is an integral part of teaching and learning. Its purpose is to highlight success and achievement, as well as identifying areas that need further support. This information will then be used to inform future planning.

Teachers assess children's progress in PSHE:

- by making informal judgements as they observe them during lessons and at other times around school
- by making formal assessments of their work and performance, measured against the specific learning objectives set out in the PSHE scheme of work. During each unit of work, teachers will carry out one planned assessment activity.

8. Subject review and monitoring

The PSHE Coordinator is responsible for monitoring the standards of children's work and the quality of teaching. The subject leader supports colleagues in the teaching of PSHE, by passing on information and ideas, and delivering staff training as appropriate. We also hold regular staff meetings to discuss current issues and to make staff aware of new initiatives, practices and resources.

9. Links with other policies

This policy links particularly to the following policies: Confidentiality, Sex and Relationships Education, Drug Education, Child Protection, Behaviour, Anti-bullying and Healthy Schools.