PSHE Policy

PSHE is a planned programme of learning opportunities and experiences that help children and young people grow and develop as individuals and as members of families and communities. It helps to equip them with knowledge, understanding and practical skills, appropriate to their age and maturity, in order to live healthy, safe, fulfilled and responsible lives.

PSHE also enables children and young people to reflect on and clarify their own values and attitudes, and explore the complex and sometimes conflicting range of values and attitudes they encounter now and in the future. In short, PSHE makes a significant contribution to children and young people's personal, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and the ability to understand and reflect upon British values, such as inclusion, acceptance and honesty.



At St John's Catholic Primary, our aim is to provide pupils with the knowledge, understanding, attitudes, values and skills they need in order to reach their potential as individuals and within the community. Pupils are encouraged to take part in a wide range of activities and experiences across and beyond the curriculum both inside and outside of the classroom, contributing fully to the life of their school and communities. In doing so they learn to recognise their own worth, work well with others and become increasingly responsible for their own learning. They reflect on their experiences and understand how they are developing personally and socially, tackling many of the spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues that are part of growing up. Pupils learn to understand and respect our common humanity; diversity and differences so that they can appreciate empowering values and go on to form the effective, fulfilling relationships that are an essential part of life and learning.

Our aims for PSHE

- To guide our children to grow in the love of God and build relationships that will enable them to make a positive contribution to the school and society.
- To develop an exciting, challenging and creative curriculum that produces confident and successful learners who are the best that they can be.
- To develop high quality learning that enables every child to flourish, to discover their talents and be lifelong learners.
- To establish a teaching and learning environment that encourages everyone to enjoy, to achieve, to be inclusive, to be healthy, and to stay safe.
- To nurture a strong partnership between home and school.
- To have respect and understanding for our school, our community and our world, helping our children to become responsible citizens and good role models.

The organisation of PSHE within the school

PSHE takes a whole school approach and is proactively led to prioritise and address mental health and wellbeing. PSHE as a subject helps to embed the school aims, values, SMSC, behaviour to engage successfully, and safeguarding principles. PSHE may be taught discretely but is also taught through cross-curricular opportunities, for example Relationships and Sex Education and Drug Education within Science, e-safety within Computing, Healthy Living within PE and Healthy Eating within Design Technology.

PSHE is taught by the class teacher.

Questions asked by pupils will be answered in a way that is appropriate to their age, maturity, understanding and need. Correct vocabulary for terms will generally be used during PSHE lessons, in line with all other curriculum subjects. Often questions will be addressed to the whole class, but should the need arise questions may be answered on an individual or small group basis. Professional judgement will be applied here; this should support the school safeguarding policy. On occasions it may be considered that the people/person best placed to answer a pupil's question is their family/carer/s, and the school will liaise with the pupil's family appropriately.

The content of the school's PSHE curriculum – scheme of work

We follow the PSHE association and have adopted their Question based model for delivering PSHE on a two year cycle to our mixed age classes. This programme of study sets out learning opportunities based on three core themes:

Core theme 1: Health and wellbeing

Core theme 2: Relationships

Core theme 3: Living in the wider world

The Programme of Study sets out learning opportunities for each key stage, in each core theme, organised under subheadings. These learning opportunities are used flexibly to plan our programme according to pupils' development, readiness and needs, and taking into account prior learning, experience and understanding.

As a Catholic school, RSE is taught in separate lessons through the 'Journey in Love' programme which focuses on the physical, social, emotional, intellectual and spiritual development of children in the belief that we are made in the image and likeness of God and as a consequence, gender and sexuality are God's gift, reflect God's beauty and share in the divine creativity.

Parent/carer involvement

We believe that it is important to have the support of parents/carers and the wider community for the PSHE/Citizenship curriculum. Parents/carers are provided with opportunities to find out about and discuss the schools' programme through

- parent/carer evenings
- information leaflets/displays
- the school website
- homework activities
- the school newsletter

Teaching and Learning

A variety of teaching and learning strategies which take into account pupils' age, development, understanding and needs are used to deliver PSHE. Pupils will need to work in a safe, secure climate to be able to explore their own and others' attitudes, values and skills. Teachers and staff should be sensitive to pupil and family situations and backgrounds and give consideration to these issues when planning the lessons. Effective PSHE lessons will involve a high level of interaction where each pupil has planned opportunities for learning through:

- the effective use of agreed class rules for talking, listening and respect
- the development of a trusting relationship between the teacher and the pupils enabling the consideration of sensitive issues to take place
- collaborative work
- opportunities for reflection
- challenge within a safe environment
- respect for each genuinely made contribution
- negotiation
- accommodating new information and skills
- building on current experience and using first-hand learning to achieve positive ends.

The school promotes British values through PSHE. Children are taught about:

- The rule of law
- Democracy
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs
- Individual liberty

The pupils learn how to deal with choices and risks, and to meet the challenges that life may present. They learn about online safety including the use of social media and the internet and risk of online radicalisation through the National Online Safety programme that we subscribe to.

The use of external contributors

External Contributors, e.g. school nurses, community police, fire officers, local experts, parents, local and/or national charities, Coram Life bus and PSHE based production groups can make a valuable contribution to the PSHE programme. Their input is carefully planned and monitored so as to fit into and complement the programme. External contributors are used where this adds 'additional' value to that of a school member of teaching staff. Teachers MUST always be present during these sessions and remain responsible for the delivery of the PSHE programme, safeguarding and ensuring that PSHE ground rules are in place.

P.S.H.E. in the Early Years and Foundation Stage

P.S.H.E. is referred to as P.S.E.D. (Personal, Social and Emotional Development) It is a Prime Area in the EYFS curriculum. The aspects include: Self-confidence and self-awareness; Managing feelings and behaviour; Making relationships. It is also covered through the Prime Area P.D. (Physical Development). This aspect covers:- Health and self-care.

PSHE is about making connections and is strongly linked to play. PSHE is taught through activities that are part of topics, as well as on an individual basis to develop personal skills such as dressing, feeding and toileting. Positive experiences are built through daily opportunities to share and enjoy a range of different activities.

Assessment:

There are many reasons why it is important that learning in PSHE education is assessed, including:

- Pupils need opportunities to reflect on their learning and its implications for their lives.
- Teachers need to know that learning has taken place, be able to demonstrate progress and identify future learning needs.
- Assessment increases pupils' motivation and improves learning, as their raised awareness of their progress illustrates the value of this learning.
- Assessment allows the leadership team, parents, governors and school inspectors to see PSHE education's impact on pupils and whole school outcomes, such as Ofsted judgements on personal development, safeguarding, spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development and the promotion of fundamental British values. Without assessment, all a school can do is describe its PSHE provision, not show its impact.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The PSHE Leader will monitor the delivery of PSHE through observation, planning, work sampling, learning walks, and discussions with teaching staff and pupils to ensure consistent and coherent provision. Evaluation of the PSHE curriculum will be conducted on the basis of:

- Pupil and teacher evaluation of the content, activities and learning processes
- Staff meetings to review and share experience

Links with other policies

We recognise the clear link between PSHE and the following policies and staff are aware of the need to refer to these policies when appropriate

- Relationships and Sex Education Policy
- British Values policy
- Teaching and Learning Policy
- Assessment Policy
- Equal Opportunities
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy