

# MEREWORTH COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL



## PSHE POLICY

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## **PSHE Policy**

### **Introduction**

The abbreviation PSHE refers to Personal, Social, Health and Economics Education. NC stands for National Curriculum.

PSHE is a non-statutory subject, yet is an important and necessary part of a child's education. Whilst there are no standardised frameworks set out in the NC for PSHE, schools are expected to tailor their PSHE programme to suit the needs of their pupils and to equip pupils with a sound understanding of risk and with the knowledge and skills necessary to make safe and informed decisions.

Schools should seek to use PSHE education to build, where appropriate, on the statutory content already outlined in the national curriculum, the basic school curriculum and in statutory guidance on: drug education, financial education, sex and relationship education (SRE) and the importance of physical activity and diet for a healthy lifestyle.

### **Rationale**

Children grow up in a complex and ever faster-changing world, and are exposed to an increasing range of influences. The school and its curriculum aim to build on and complement the learning that has already started at home, in relation to moral values and attitudes, and awareness of society. Parents or adults who care for the children we teach are the 'first time educators' of their children. Schools work in partnership with them in developing children personally and emotionally, and as young citizens.

This area of the curriculum aims to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of children, as well as preparing them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

The content of the PHSE curriculum complements and supports work done across all the disciplines in school. PSHE includes:

- Sex and Relationships Education
- Drugs Education (including tobacco, alcohol and medicines)
- Bullying Awareness (including cyber bullying and HBT – homophobic, biphobic and transphobic)
- Safety (including 'e-safety')
- Civil Rights
- Duties and Social and Moral Responsibilities

- Thinking and Decision Making Skills - to ensure children are equipped to make safe and healthy choices as they grow up
- Community Involvement
- Political Literacy

## **Aims**

PSHE provides a basis for children, within which they can grow in confidence as people and become informed, thoughtful, responsible, healthy and safe members of society. Through PSHE we are able to deliver skills that include:

- How to make informed decisions to keep themselves safe and healthy
- Assessing, avoiding and managing risk
- Communicating effectively
- Setting and achieving goals
- Resisting pressures (including the Prevent curriculum)
- Understanding rules, rights and responsibilities
- Considering different points of view
- Exploring moral, social and cultural issues
- Discussing and debating topical issues

\*NB All teaching will be delivered in age appropriate forms

## **Methodology**

Teaching staff ensure that all pupils are fully involved in PSHE sessions, by using a variety of interactive and participatory teaching methods. These methods include strategies such as: action research, mind mapping / thought showers, case studies, circle time, creative writing, relevant literature, discussion, external contributors, drama, debate, group work, quizzes, role-play, ICT, surveys, questionnaires, media analysis and structured games.

Whole school and Key Stage assemblies are also used to deliver aspects of PSHE. These might include assemblies about disabilities, certain charities, internet safety, growth mindset, NSPCC 'Speak Out, Stay Safe', current news items, etc.

We are a Values Based Education school and our value of the month will often be linked to PSHE lessons. For example, the value of 'Friendship' will be used to cover aspects of the PSHE curriculum linked to Relationships. Our PSHE curriculum also ensures coverage of British Values.

We also use focus days to support our PSHE curriculum, such as 'Global Awareness Day', where each class looked at one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, and 'Careers Aspiration Day, where pupils dressed up as what they would like to be when they are older and visitors came in to speak about their careers.

Mereworth prides itself on being a 'Growth Mindset' school and skills to develop a positive, resilient approach to learning are not only encouraged throughout the general, wider school environment and curriculum, but are specifically addressed during PSHE lessons.

### **National Healthy School Standard**

This is a partnership between health and education. It offers an integrated whole-school process so that schools, working together with local partners and agencies, can review, develop and promote PSHE against nationally agreed criteria. The standard includes drug education, emotional health, healthy eating, physical activity, safety, and sex and relationship education. This self-improvement model includes the following ten key elements:

- Leadership, management and managing change
- Policy development
- Curriculum planning and resourcing
- Teaching and learning
- School culture and environment
- Giving children a voice
- Provision of children's support services
- Staff professional development, health and welfare
- Partnerships with parents / carers and local communities
- Assessing and reporting children's achievements

### **Confidentiality**

Teaching staff cannot and should not promise total confidentiality. The nature of the subject is such that staff may find themselves party to personal information, which does not normally surface within the school environment. When a pupil discloses information which is sensitive, is not generally known and which the pupil asks not to be passed on, the request will be honored unless child protection issues, police investigation or the need for referral to external services becomes apparent.

## **Continuing Professional Development**

This will be supported by Leadership Team, Local Education Authority and Healthy Schools, to include:

- Team teaching or teachers observing other skilled staff with ongoing support from a coach / mentor
- Participating in collaborative enquiry and action research supported by teaching networks
- Training courses with support to apply learning to the classroom
- Assessment, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reviewing
- Pupils' knowledge, understanding and skills will be assessed through pupil self-assessment, peer group assessment, teacher assessment
- Lesson observations and pupils' work
- Teachers evaluate within planning sessions
- Feedback via subject leaders, through teachers and pupils
- Comments to parents regarding PSHE are included in pupils' end of year reports

## **Visitors in School**

- When outside agencies are to be involved in the delivery of PSHE, they will work within the school's policy and planning
- Teachers will work alongside visitors when they work in the classroom
- External contributors will include our community police officer and other health professionals in liaison with PSHE subject leader
- The school also aims to include as many individuals who represent a variety of different professions / occupations as possible, to compliment the citizenship component of the PSHE curriculum

## **Resources**

The main teaching resource used to support the teaching and learning of PSHE across all year groups is the Mereworth School PSHE Progression Document, which can be found on Staff Shared Work and on the school website. This was developed by the subject leader in accordance with guidelines from the PSHE Association. It breaks down coverage across year groups 1 to 6 and splits PSHE into three areas of learning: Relationships; Health & Well-being and Living in the Wider World.

There are many links between the PSHE curriculum and the Science curriculum, particularly in Key Stage 2. Learning how to be safe round medicines and drugs and learning about changes to our bodies during puberty are examples of curriculum content that will be covered under the Science curriculum.

The scheme of work for Relationships & Sex Education (YR – Y6) can be found on 'Staff Shared Work', which can be accessed from Computer Suite computers and class computers. A hard copy can be found in the PSHE subject leader's folder and each class teacher has a copy.

Books on circle time and resources to support the teaching of PSHE can be found in the SENCO's room, the PPA room and individual classrooms. The library is home to books that staff and pupils can access, covering issues such as feelings, smoking, bereavement, divorce, different cultures, different families, transgender issues, racism and bullying.

Many useful ideas to support PSHE lessons can be found online, in teacher resource sites and on charity websites. Those approved by the PSHE Association are considered high quality. The subject leader has a list of these and keeps colleagues informed of relevant sites of interest.

### **Suggested websites containing ideas and lesson plans to support the teaching of PSHE**

[www.primaryresources.co.uk/pshe](http://www.primaryresources.co.uk/pshe)

[www.healthyschools.gov.uk/Resources](http://www.healthyschools.gov.uk/Resources)

[www.teachernet.gov.uk/pshe](http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/pshe)

[www.kleenex.co.uk/sneezesafe](http://www.kleenex.co.uk/sneezesafe)

[www.standards.dfes.gov.uk/schemes2/ks1-2citizenship/](http://www.standards.dfes.gov.uk/schemes2/ks1-2citizenship/)

[www.nc.uk.net](http://www.nc.uk.net)

[www.teachingideas.co.uk/more/pshe](http://www.teachingideas.co.uk/more/pshe)

[www.firstschoolyears.com/pshe](http://www.firstschoolyears.com/pshe)

[www.teachers.tv/video](http://www.teachers.tv/video)

### **Links with other policies**

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Drug Awareness Policy, Relationships & Sex Education Policy, Promoting Positive Emotional & Mental Well-being Policy, Anti-Bullying Policy, Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy and Equalities Policy.