

Matthew Arnold Primary School



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

Date: November 2023

Aims

At Matthew Arnold Primary School, we believe that PSHE helps to give pupils the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to lead confident, healthy, independent lives, in order to become informed, active and responsible citizens. Our personal, social, health and economic education promotes children's personal, social and economic development, as well as their health and wellbeing. It provides information about keeping healthy and safe, emotionally and physically; encourages our children to understand how all actions have consequences and how they can make informed choices to help themselves, others and the environment. Our PSHE curriculum sets the foundation on which our pupils can build upon.

Experience and Life Skills

Our curriculum allows PSHE to be delivered both within discrete timetabled lessons, through planned, themed weeks and also through cross-curricular opportunities.

At Matthew Arnold the RSE curriculum is embedded within our PSHE curriculum programme (3D PSHE) in which pupils develop the knowledge, skills and attributes needed in order to keep themselves healthy and safe whilst preparing them for life and work. The RSE curriculum and policy has been written in line with the PSHE policy and curriculum.

The curriculum for each year group covers knowledge, skills and attitudes and is appropriate to the age and maturity of pupils. It progresses from one year to another, building on what has been learnt in previous years.

Through a combination of weekly lessons, assemblies and theme weeks/days, our pupils develop and understanding of life in the wider world; how they can become responsible and active citizens and the responsibilities they will face as they move towards adult life.

Our safeguarding and PSHE curriculum run hand in hand. Key understanding of keeping safe, from responding to an emergency, to e-safety and healthy relationships are taught throughout the curriculum.

Through themed days, experiences and weekly teaching, we encourage our children to play a positive role in contributing to the life of the school, considering their own responsibilities, rights and duties as individuals and members of the wider community. In so doing, we help develop their sense of self-worth and they learn to appreciate what it means to be a positive member of a community, inspiring them to be the very best version of themselves. We believe our PSHE curriculum lays the foundations that allow our pupils to reach the highest of aspirations, equipped with the knowledge and understanding to do so.

Diversity

Our PSHE curriculum spans the globe, covering a range of cultures; exploring diversity and celebrating our differences. Children are given opportunities to learn about life in different cultures and countries; those who are less fortunate and those who face discrimination or have fought for a rightful cause of equality.

Statutory Requirements

PSHE is a non-statutory subject. However, there are aspects of it we are required to teach. We must teach relationships education under the Children and Social Work Act 2017, in line with the terms set out in statutory guidance. We must teach health education under the same statutory guidance.

We follow the 3D PSHE scheme which allows pupils to recognise, reflect and respond to a range of activities linked to the following aspects;

- Healthy lifestyles
- Hygiene
- Changing and growing
- Emotions
- Keeping Safe
- Communication
- Bullying
- Fairness
- Family and friends
- Rules and responsibilities
- Communities
- Money and Finance

Protected Characteristics – Equalities Act

It is important that all children gain an understanding of the world they are growing up in, and learn how to live alongside, and show respect for, a diverse range of people. Throughout the school we promote and teach the nine protected characteristics. All of these will not be taught in every year group. Children should be able to demonstrate an understanding that we respect those who have protected characteristics.

The Equality Act 2010, identifies the 'protected characteristics' as:

- age
- disability
- gender reassignment
- race
- religion or belief
- marriage or civil partnership
- sex
- sexual orientation
- pregnancy and maternity

At Matthew Arnold, we pride ourselves on having a well-considered approach to the teaching of the protected characteristics, in order to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation
- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it
- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it

RSE

We are required to cover the content for relationships and sex education, and health education, as set out in the statutory guidance. We follow the Medway plans to teach RSE across all year groups.

Refer to our relationships and sex education policy for details about what we teach, and how we decide on what to teach, in this subject. This policy can be found on our website.

For other aspects of PSHE, including health education, see the attached curriculum map for more details about what we teach in each year.

How we teach PSHE

Retrieval: Children may take part in a short, independent or group/ class task where they will be required to retrieve previously gained knowledge or any knowledge if starting a new unit. The children may have acquired this knowledge in a previous lesson, unit of work or even a previous year group. This task is designed to strengthen our pupils' memories of key knowledge, enabling them to permanently remember and make progress across the PSHE curriculum.

Vocabulary: Children will be introduced to relevant vocabulary/specific terminology when necessary throughout the lesson. Children will be asked to apply new vocabulary during the lesson. Teachers will provide age appropriate definitions for words outlined in each lesson plan and key stage.

Teach: The teacher will share the knowledge/ information for the lesson with the children. This is an opportunity for children to listen to and understand the new information

Partner Talk: Children may work with a partner to complete a short task or discuss new information. Children will be expected to apply their understanding of the new information taught. They may be given a scenario, questions, flash cards, pictures, statements, quizzes, games or problems.

Independent Task: The children will now work independently on a task. This may be a written task/ labelling task or generating a response to a scenario or problem that will require the children to apply everything they have learned.

Assessment: Assessment of PSHE should continuously be used to inform teaching. Teachers should assess children on knowledge goals on a termly basis and informally throughout units, adapting their planning and teaching where necessary

Roles and Responsibilities

The governing body

The governing body will approve the PSHE policy and hold the headteacher to account for its implementation.

The headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that PSHE is taught consistently across the school.

Staff

Staff are responsible for

- Delivering PSHE in a sensitive way
- Modelling positive attitudes to PSHE
- Monitoring progress
- Responding to the needs of individual pupils

Pupils

Pupils are expected to fully engage in PSHE and, when discussing issues related to PSHE, treat others with respect and sensitivity.

Monitoring Arrangements

The delivery of PSHE is monitored by the subject lead through:

- Planning scrutiny
- Learning walks
- Book Scrutiny
- Pupil voice
- Staff voice

This policy will be reviewed annually by the subject lead. At every review the policy will be approved by the headteacher.

Links with other policies

This policy links to the following policies and procedures:

Child protection policy

Drug and substance misuse policy

E-safety policy

Equalities policy

Positive behaviour and relationships policy

Race equality policy

RSE policy

Sexting policy

SEND policy