



Wetheridge C of E Primary Academy

Core PSHE and RSE Policy

Draft Policy: March 2019 to be reviewed upon publication of statutory PSHE and RSE guidance expected summer 2019

Our School Vision and Values

'Encourage One Another and Build Each Other Up'

1 Thessalonians 5: 11

At Witheridge School, we aspire to encourage one another and build each other up to be the best that we can be: the best learners, the best friends, the best people, in school and in the wider community, now and in the future.

In order to help us achieve this, we have six core School Christian Values that we try to follow in school. These values form the basis of our daily acts of Collective Worship.



Aims and Key Principles

Our Christian values underpin our ethos; every child is valued and encouraged to achieve their full potential. Every member of our school community is encouraged to respect and value each other. Wherever possible we make close links between our values, worship and PSHE curriculum.

Personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE) are an important and necessary part of all pupils' education. Through a planned programme of learning, we aim to provide our pupils with the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need in order to manage their lives both now and in the future. As part of a whole school approach, we aim to develop the attributes our pupils need to thrive as individuals, as part of a family and as a confident member of the wider community.

We want our children to learn to understand and respect our common humanity, diversity and differences so that they can go on to form the effective, fulfilling relationships that are an essential part of life and learning.

Pupil Learning Intentions

We want our children to develop self-awareness, positive self-esteem and confidence, enabling them to:

- Have a sense of purpose
- Value self and others
- Form relationships
- Make and act on informed decisions
- Communicate effectively
- Work with others
- Respond to challenge
- Be an active partner in their own learning
- Be active citizens within the local community
- Explore issues related to living in a democratic society
- Become healthy and fulfilled individuals

Curriculum Content

PSHE (which includes Relationships and Sex Education) is taught weekly through a planned programme of work. The programme brings together PSHE Education, emotional literacy, social skills and spiritual development. Teaching strategies are varied and are mindful of preferred learning styles and the need for differentiation.

We also aim to cover aspects of PSHE through special theme days and weeks e.g. Healthy Living week.

In addition to following a specific programme, opportunities for exploring aspects of PSHE will be capitalised upon e.g. through literacy sessions where a core text may involve questioning a character's motivation for their actions etc.

Learning and Teaching

In line with our Learning and Teaching Policy, a range of teaching strategies will be used to ensure that learning is purposeful, active and exciting. All pupils will work within a safe, secure climate to be able to explore their own and others' attitudes, values and skills. Lessons will involve a high level of interaction where each pupil has planned opportunities for learning which will give them scope to work to their full potential.

Establishing a safe, open and positive learning environment based on trusting relationships between all members of the class, adults and children alike, is vital to successful and effective teaching and learning within this subject. Each class will establish ground rules largely based on the following:

- We take turns to speak
- We use kind and positive words
- We listen to each other
- We have the right to pass

Parental and Community Involvement

Parents are invited to join in events in school. Parents are regularly informed of events and developments on the website and school newsletter. We also have a close relationship with our local Church who lead worship in the school. We aim to involve outside agencies, including NSPCC, School Liaison Police Officer, dental health advisors, e-safety advisors, St Johns Ambulance service, to deliver aspects of the PSHE curriculum where possible.

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is taught in the summer term.

We recognise that Relationships and Sex Education is a sensitive subject but we firmly believe that effective RSE can make a significant contribution to the development of the personal skills needed by pupils if they are to establish and maintain relationships. It also enables children and young people to make responsible and informed decisions about their health and well-being.

As a Church of England school, we will teach within a framework of Christian values. Whilst we use relationships and sex education to inform children about sexual issues, we do this with regard to matters of morality and individual responsibility, and in a way that allows children to ask and explore moral questions. Sensitivity and respect will be shown to all children when teaching about personal relationships and sex education and RSE is taught in a way to ensure that there is no stigmatization of children based on their home/personal circumstances.

Our RSE teaching and learning is set within a context that is consistent with the school's Christian ethos and values.

Whilst pupils are given the opportunity to explore their own attitudes, values and beliefs and to develop an individual moral code that will guide their actions, this is exercised within an understanding of the right of people to hold their own views within a framework of respect for others. We are educating our children to live in the real world with all its contradictions. Our focus is on building healthy attitudes and positive relationships in an environment where difference is celebrated and everyone is included and valued for who they are.

Withdrawal from RSE Lessons

Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the Relationships and Sex Education provided at school **except for those parts included in statutory National Curriculum Science**. Those parents/carers wishing to exercise this right are invited in to see the head teacher and/or PSHE lead who will explore any concerns and discuss any impact that withdrawal may have on the child. Once a child has been withdrawn they cannot take part in the RSE programme until the request for withdrawal has been removed. Materials are available to parents/carers who wish to supplement the school RSE programme or who wish to deliver RSE to their children at home.

Teaching Sensitive and Controversial Issues

Sensitive and controversial issues are certain to arise in learning from real-life experience. Teachers will be prepared to handle personal issues arising from the work, to deal sensitively with, and to follow up appropriately, disclosures made in a group or individual setting. Issues that we address that are likely to be sensitive and controversial because they have a political, social or personal impact or deal with values and beliefs include: family lifestyles and values, physical and medical issues, financial issues, bullying and bereavement. Teachers will take all reasonable, practical steps to ensure that, where political or controversial issues are brought to pupils' attention, they are offered a balanced presentation of opposing views. Teachers will adopt strategies that seek to avoid bias on their part and will teach pupils how to recognise bias and evaluate evidence. Teachers will seek to establish a classroom climate in which all pupils are free from any fear of expressing reasonable points of view that contradict those held either by their class teachers or their peers.

Assessment

Children's understanding, knowledge and skills are assessed through observation, discussion, questioning and group participation. Children will be encouraged to talk about and reflect on their own experiences. For the early years, evidence of learning will be in the children's Learning Journals. General comments about PSHE will be included in annual reports to parents. Individual pupil profiles will also reflect areas of health and well-being.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The TEAM PSHE subject leader will monitor delivery of PSHE through observation and discussion with teaching staff to ensure consistent and coherent curriculum provision. Evaluation will be based on:

- Pupil and teacher evaluation of the content and learning processes
- Monitoring of Journals
- Staff meetings to review and share ideas

Confidentiality and Child Protection Issues

As a general rule a child's confidentiality is maintained by the teacher or member of staff concerned. If this person believes that the child is at risk or in danger, she/he talks to the designated safeguarding lead who takes action as laid down in the Safeguarding Children Policy. All staff members are familiar with the policy and know the identity of the member of staff with responsibility for Child Protection issues. The child concerned will be informed that confidentiality is being breached and reasons why. The child will be supported by the teacher throughout the process.

TEAM Multi Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The Safeguarding Children Policy and procedures are available on our website and provide comprehensive information regarding all forms of child exploitation.

Involving Parents and Carers

The school believes that it is important to have the support of parents, carers and the wider community for our PSHE teaching and learning programme and so will keep parents informed of the content studied using our half termly curriculum newsletters, weekly school newsletters and annual end of year reports.

The parents section of our school website, "Keeping your child safe", offers a wide range of advice and guidance to support parents.

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Monitoring and Evaluation

The PSHE subject leader will monitor delivery of PSHE through observation and discussion with teaching staff to ensure consistent and coherent curriculum provision. Evaluation will be based on:

- Pupil and teacher evaluation of the content and learning processes
- Monitoring of Jigsaw Journals
- Staff meetings to review and share ideas

Training and Support for Staff

Support for teaching and understanding PSHE issues is incorporated in our staff INSET programme, drawing on staff expertise and/or a range of external agencies.

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