



PSHCE Policy

Revised July 2016

Mortimer Primary School's Policy for Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education

Our Vision Statement

Health education is an essential part of our pupil's education as it enables them to develop the knowledge, skills and understanding they will need to become informed, healthy, active, independent and responsible citizens. We encourage pupils to take part in a wide range of activities and experiences across and beyond the curriculum, contributing fully to the life of our school and community. Through taking part in curricular and extra-curricular activities our children learn to recognise their own worth, work well with others and become increasingly responsible for their own learning. The children, as part of the process of growing up, will be given the opportunity to reflect on their experiences and understand how they are developing personally and socially. Spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues are seen to be an important part of this process.

Introduction:

This policy has been drawn up by using the non statutory guidelines for personal, social and health education and citizenship at key stage 1 and 2 in '*The National Curriculum Handbook for primary teachers in England* (1999), '*Personal, social and health education and citizenship at key stages 1 and 2*' (2000), '*National Healthy School Standard getting started – A guide for schools*' (2001), and the LEA's '*Position Statement on Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE)*' (2000).

The above documents are still current until new statutory guidance is made available to schools. The school also acknowledges the impact of new technologies on our children's safety. This is recognised within our school's online safety policy.

This document compliments and supports other policies related to Health Education which are connected to Mortimer Primary's commitment to being a 'Healthy School.'

How PSHCE is taught in our school

PSHCE is taught through four main areas:

- designated curriculum time
- teaching in and through other subjects/curriculum areas
- through enrichment activities and school events
- through pastoral care and guidance

The school follows the Local Authorities Programme of Study for PSHCE from Y1-Y6.

Designated curriculum time

This includes separately planned curriculum time with themes connected to health education.

Provision through teaching and learning in other subjects/curriculum areas

Many aspects of PSHCE can be successfully delivered through other National Curriculum subjects and also RE.

PSHCE activities and school events

School visits, special days and weeks in school and residential experiences provide opportunities for our children to plan and work together, and develop and maintain relationships through a wide range of different circumstances. Through volunteering, participating and reflecting on new experiences they can discover new qualities and characteristics. The current sport funding also provides our children with a wide range of activities that they were previously unable to access.

Pastoral care and guidance

The links between pastoral care and guidance and PSHCE are important. Our school values the important contribution that all the individuals within our whole school community have to make. The policy is not a stand-alone document and links strongly with the schools commitment to Health Education and Healthy School initiatives.

The Aims of Teaching PSHCE

The National Curriculum Handbook for Primary teachers in England (1999) sets out two broad aims for the school curriculum:

- to provide opportunities for all pupils to learn and achieve; and
- to promote children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and prepare all pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.

Our school believes that these interdependent aims for the school curriculum cannot be fully achieved without the provision of PSHCE.

Knowledge, skills and understanding are taught through four interrelated sections.

- Developing the children's confidence and responsibility, while making the most of their abilities.
- Preparing the children to play an active role as citizens.
- Developing a healthy, safer lifestyle
- Developing good relationships and respecting the differences between people as demonstrated through our school ethos.

Foundation Stage

PSHCE is critical for very young children in all aspects of their lives. It is taught as an integral part of the Foundation Stage. Our teaching in PSHCE matches the aim of developing a child's personal, emotional, social

development as set out in the Early Learning Goals (ELG). The citizenship section is taught mainly through the area of the child's knowledge and understanding of the world. PSHCE plays an important role in the classroom organisation by giving young children the opportunity of a variety of different situations.

Gender

At Mortimer we firmly believe PSHCE is a critical area for promoting equal opportunities. It provides opportunities for teachers to avoid gender stereotyping when organising groups and activities. PSHCE is taught to our children in mixed gender groups and classes. The only time it is taught separately is for our older children in SRE. Our Y5 girls have a session with the school nurse about changes to their bodies as they reach puberty. Our Y6 children have single sex SRE lessons delivered by the school nurse and school staff.

Equal Opportunities

We believe that all children irrespective of race, background, gender and capability should have equal access to the PSHCE curriculum. The school will also ensure that all children will cover the non-statutory programmes of study within the National Curriculum.

SEN

In this school, we think that PSHCE is appropriate for children with learning difficulties, since it provides them with opportunities to relate to situations of everyday life. PSHCE also helps to promote and encourage positive attitudes and to develop self-esteem.

Religious and Cultural

The Christian ethos within our school encourages tolerance towards others and the celebration of their religious or cultural beliefs. All activities planned are sensitive towards these areas.

Partnership with parents and our local community

PSHCE provision compliments the personal and social development of children provided at home. Working with parents is therefore a vital part of the whole school approach. Consultation with parents on PSHCE helps to develop better understanding between home and school and reinforces key points of learning. Open evenings, events and meetings allow parents to become more involved in the life of our school.

We have close links with a range of outside agencies including police liaison officers, the school nurses service, the school meals service, the fire service and road safety officers. Our policies are also made available to be viewed on our school's website.

Record Keeping and Assessment

In PSHCE there are two broad areas for assessment:

- children's knowledge and understanding
- how well children can use their knowledge and understanding in developing skills and attitudes.

Assessment in PSHCE will not imply that children are failing as people or citizens. It should not be a judgement on the worth, personality or value of an individual child or their family. A record of children's work will provide evidence for reports to parents that might include their child's awareness of topical events, exercise of responsibility (through for example our School Council) and contribution to the life of the school.

Our school also regularly recognises the achievements of our children and praises their success at all levels, both inside and outside of school, through for example school assemblies.

PJ Mackay
PSHE Coordinator
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