

PERSONAL, SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, HEALTH EDUCATION &
CITIZENSHIP (PSHCE) POLICY



Mission Statement: To love, to learn with God in our hearts

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Aims

Our aims as articulated by the whole staff, including the support staff and the Governors are:

- To foster in our children the love of God and each other and to give them a sound knowledge of the beliefs and practices of our Faith.
- To encourage respect for others and an understanding of, and a tolerance towards other faiths and cultures.
- To encourage the developments in our children of questioning and enquiring minds, able to confidently undertake all areas of the curriculum.
- To instil a sense of belonging to the school community and the parish community, with all the responsibilities and obligations that go with that.
- To cooperate fully with our parents in the task of developing the full potential of each child in our care.

Why PSHCE is Important

PSHCE is an intrinsic part of Catholic education and the entitlement of every child. The Governing Body of St. John Evangelist Primary School believes that it is part of every child's preparation for the future and so fulfils the requirements of the Education Reform Act 1998 which states that schools must provide a 'balanced and broad curriculum' which:

1. Promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society
2. Prepares pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

Definition of PSHCE

PSHCE is part of the process of growth of the whole person to Christian maturity. A process begun in the home and which teachers, in partnership with support staff, parents and governors, seek to continue in school. PSHCE prepares all children for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life, now and in the future. PSHCE:

- Promotes and develops spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- Helps children to be responsible and active citizens
- Gives a wider understanding of the environment around them
- Promotes equal opportunities and respect for themselves and others
- Promotes self-esteem and emotional wellbeing
- Helps children form and maintain good relationships
- Equips children to make informed and healthy choices.

Citizenship in St. John Evangelist Primary School

Key Principle:

All humankind is made in the image of God and each individual is of inestimable worth.

At the heart of Catholic Education lies the Catholic Vision of the human person. We are committed to the entitlement of our children to full spiritual, moral, social, cultural, physical and emotional development. We wish to promote each child's ability to:

- Respond positively to the opportunities and challenges of the world in which they live.
- Promote their commitment to learning.
- Help develop their self-esteem.
- Pass on enduring values of truth and justice which lie at the heart of their Catholic Faith.
- Value and respect the dignity of all individuals.
- Become aware of their responsibilities and duties as a member of a democratic society.
- Become aware that what they do and say makes a difference and should be used as a force for good.
- Develop a sense of belonging.

Aims of PSHCE

PSHCE Education is a planned programme of learning through which children and young people acquire the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to manage their lives. (The PSHE Association, 2014)

The National Curriculum (September 2014) states that:

All schools should make provision for personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE), drawing on good practice.

PSHCE curriculum has four main aims as set out in by the PSHE Association, 2014 (Grant provided by the Government):

Provide pupils with-

1. Accurate and relevant knowledge
2. Opportunities to turn knowledge into personal understanding
3. Opportunities to explore, clarify and if necessary challenge, their own and others' values, attitudes, beliefs, rights and responsibilities
4. The skills, language and strategies they need in order to live healthy, safe, fulfilling, responsible and balanced lives.

We teach PSHCE through our RE, Topic and Science schemes and where appropriate through other curriculum subjects. We follow the Islington Borough scheme of work.

We also deal with related issues in assemblies and collective acts of worship during the week. We bring children to a fuller understanding of citizenship through the School Council, EcoSchools Committee and Playground Friends.

Content of PSHCE

PSHCE is taught through the Islington 'You, Me and PSHE' Programme. This covers seven themes:

- Sex and relationship education
- Drug, alcohol and tobacco education
- Keeping safe and managing risk
- Mental health and emotional wellbeing
- Physical health and wellbeing
- Careers, financial capability and economic wellbeing
- Identity society and equality

Specific drug, alcohol and tobacco education topics are in every year and the specific Sex and Relationship Education topics are taught in year 2, 5 and 6.

Organisation of PSHCE

PSHCE will include work done in lesson time and a wider range of activities and experiences across and beyond the curriculum. Our children will develop knowledge and understanding through activities that draw upon their everyday experiences, and in contexts to which they can relate.

How PSHCE can be provided

There are many other areas of the curriculum and times when links can be made to PSHCE.

1. The children can develop a knowledge of a healthier and safer lifestyle through other areas:

- Science – through topic and discussion
- Circle time – group discussion
- PE - games, dance gymnastics and swimming where children develop their personal and social skills through team work
- Assemblies, lunchtimes, playtimes and school trips.

2. The children can develop confidence and responsibility and make the most of their abilities through:

- The use of positive reward systems e.g. school wide house points, certificate/badges assemblies
- Opportunities for self-reflection and assessment when considering targets set in consultation with the teacher
- Having a particular responsibility within the classroom/school e.g. distributing post and recycling bins
- Being given a role within the classroom such as PE shed monitor, pet monitor
- Being given a leadership role within the school e.g. school council member, Ecoschool committee member and playground friend
- Stories in class may generate discussions about characters' emotions and actions and provide opportunities for dramatisation e.g. whether a character chose the correct course of action and whether perhaps another reaction would have been better.

3. The children can prepare to play an active role as citizens by being involved in:

- Links with local organisations e.g. St John the Evangelist Church, Clubs and the school council (which meets monthly)
- Ecoschool committee meetings
- Playground friends meetings
- Local community projects such as 'Jeans for Genes Day' and the 'Thames Festival'
- Geography based topics such as the study of the locality and places in different parts of the world, including less economically developed countries
- History based topics where children study reasons for (and the results of) historical events
- Mathematical topics where children study aspects of financial capability which includes counting and sharing
- Acting as monitors
- Supporting charities: local, national and worldwide
- Helping to formulate school rules and class rules
- Making a contribution to the writing of school policies through the School Council and Ecoschool committee.

4. The children can develop good relationships and learn to respect the differences between people:

- In Religious Education lessons that teach children about the different faiths
- By celebrating the diverse backgrounds and cultures that exist in the school community
- By having visitors from different backgrounds and cultures not represented in the school community, such as International Day
- By meeting children and adults with disabilities
- By receiving attention and praise for good behaviour
- By reflecting and responding to ideas and experiences communicated through works of art, design and technology, dance and music from different cultures.

The Teaching of PSHCE

- PSHCE will be taught by class teachers. Where applicable LEA members, school nurses, local agencies and other outside professionals may be involved in the teaching of certain topics e.g. CAHMS social skills group
- Most topics will be discussed in whole class situations. However, more sensitive issues may have to be discussed in smaller groups or in a one to one situation. The school acknowledges the importance of the training needs in the area of PSHCE and will endeavor to make available training and support for all members of staff.

Working with Parents

At St John Evangelist School we believe that the partnership between parents and the school is of vital importance to the success of the programme. Parents will be consulted about the Drugs Policy. Newsletters from the Head teacher will keep parents informed about items particularly in the area of health.

Assessing PSHCE

There are two main areas to be assessed:

- Children's knowledge and understanding, for example, information on health understanding of rules and understanding of health and safety procedures.
- How well children can use their knowledge and understanding in developing skills and activities, managing conflict, making decisions and promoting positive relationships.

Assessments in PSHCE will be made through assessments undertaken in other areas as well as a brief evaluation done on PSHCE planning.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The PSHCE Subject Leader will monitor that the curriculum is being delivered according to this policy and whether the activities and methods being used to do this are achieving the policy's aims. Teachers and children will give feedback to the Subject Leader stating what activities worked well etc. and comments from Learning Walks in the school should be recorded.

The Role of the PSHCE Subject Leader

The PSHCE Subject Leader will:

- Provide termly planning and objectives
- Provide material, resources and information for planning and teaching PSHCE across the curriculum
- Co-ordinate PSHCE related policies
- Keep staff informed of developments and local and national campaigns
- Monitor, review and evaluate PSHCE across the curriculum
- Liaise with the LEA, local agencies and health promotion
- Develop ways to promote PSHCE within the school
- Raise awareness of health issues for staff, children, Governor and parents
- Support staff in teaching PSHCE.

This policy is reviewed biennially.