



Victoria Road Primary School

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

Policy written by	Victoria Road Primary School
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Next Review	September 2027
Head teacher	Mrs Emma Roberts
Chair of Governors	Mrs Hilary Moss

Signed:..... Head Teacher

Signed:..... Chair of Governors

Context

At Victoria Road Primary School, we believe that Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education is an essential part of every pupil's education and personal development. Through a planned, progressive curriculum, we aim to equip children with the knowledge, understanding, skills and attributes they need to manage their lives now and in the future.

Our PSHE curriculum supports pupils to develop healthy, respectful relationships; understand physical and mental wellbeing; make informed and safe choices; recognise and manage risk; and become active, responsible members of society. It contributes significantly to safeguarding by helping children recognise unsafe situations, understand their rights and responsibilities and know how and when to seek support.

Our curriculum has been developed in line with the following statutory guidance:

- Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Statutory Guidance (2026)
- The Children and Social Work Act 2017
- The Equality Act 2010
- Keeping Children Safe in Education
- Working Together to Safeguard Children
- The Education Act 2002
- The SEND Code of Practice (2015)
- The National Curriculum

The Oak National Academy scheme of work ensures full coverage of the statutory requirements alongside broader PSHE themes including economic wellbeing and citizenship. Learning is carefully sequenced and age-appropriate.

This policy has been developed following consultation with staff and parents and will continue to be reviewed regularly to ensure it reflects the needs of our pupils and school community.

To enrich our curriculum, we will work alongside Halton Healthy Schools, who provide specialist workshops to support areas including:

- Oral health
- Tobacco, smoking and vaping awareness
- Growing and changing
- Basic first aid

These sessions complement, rather than replace, our planned PSHE curriculum.

Aims and Objectives

At Victoria Road Primary School, we aim to enable pupils to:

- Develop confidence, resilience and self-esteem
- Build positive, respectful and healthy relationships
- Understand how to keep themselves physically and mentally healthy
- Recognise and manage risks, including online risks
- Understand the importance of consent, personal boundaries and seeking help from trusted adults
- Develop emotional literacy and strategies to manage feelings appropriately
- Value diversity and treat others with kindness, empathy and respect
- Understand their rights and responsibilities as members of school and wider society
- Make informed choices that contribute to healthy lifestyles

- Develop financial awareness and an understanding of economic wellbeing appropriate to their age
- Prepare for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

Content and Delivery

PSHE is taught through planned weekly lessons using the Oak National Academy School of Work. Learning is organised into progressive units that build children's knowledge and skills overtime.

The curriculum has been carefully sequenced and curriculum content underpins its design, ensuring that pupils are able to build on and make links with existing knowledge. Attention is paid to vertical coherence via threads, which map the development of concepts over time.

In the Early Years children's Personal, Social and Emotional Development (including RSE) is developed through all strands of the Curriculum Triangle and is threaded throughout the Early Years Curriculum. Through Continuous and Enhanced Provision and Directed Teaching, pupils are taught and encouraged to:

- Show an understanding of their own feelings and those of others, and begin to regulate their behaviour accordingly;
- Set and work towards simple goals, being able to wait for what they want and control their immediate impulses when appropriate;
- Give focused attention to what the teacher says, responding appropriately even when engaged in activity, and show an ability to follow instructions involving several ideas or actions.
- Be confident to try new activities and show independence, resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge;
- Explain the reasons for rules, know right from wrong and try to behave accordingly;
- Manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs, including dressing, going to the toilet, and understanding the importance of healthy food choices

All pupils in Key Stage 1 and 2 cover the following threads:

All units come under the following threads:

- Community
- Relationships
- Online safety
- Wellbeing
- Growing up

By using these threads, we ensure that pupils are prepared to successfully navigate a wealth of real-life situations.

PSHE does not just take place throughout these lessons: these concepts are reinforced and enhanced in many ways.

- Assemblies and daily Worship sessions
- Our school values
- Behaviour policy
- Through relationships child to child, adult to child and adult to adult across the school
- External visitors

Every day we aim to 'live' what is learnt and apply it to everyday situations in the school community.

At Victoria Road Primary School we allocate approximately 45 minutes of teaching time to PSHE each week in order to teach the PSHE knowledge and skills in a developmental and age-appropriate way. Lessons are

delivered using a range of teaching approaches including, discussion and questioning, problem solving, scenario-based learning and reflection.

Parental Partnership and Responsibility

We recognise that parents and carers are a child's first and most important educators. We value the strong partnership we have with families and believe that working together is what helps children develop the knowledge, skills and values they need to stay healthy, safe and happy.

We are committed to keeping parents informed about our PSHE curriculum and welcome any questions or discussions about the content being taught. Curriculum information is available through our school website and parents and carers were encouraged to take part in consultation to share their ideas.

When puberty lessons are taught in both Year 4 and 6, parents will be informed via online platforms. This is to ensure that parents are prepared for any questions that arise once the unit has been covered.

Right to Withdraw

Relationships Education and Health Education are statutory subjects in all primary schools and form part out of PSHE curriculum. At Victoria Road Primary School, these are taught in line with the guidance issued by the Department for Education.

Our school does not teach any additional non-statutory Sex Education as part of the PSHE curriculum; therefore, there is no right for parents or carers to withdraw their child from PSHE lessons as all content delivered is statutory.

Should parents or carers have any questions or concerns about the curriculum, they are encouraged to contact the PSHE subject leader. We are committed to working openly and collaboratively with families and will seek to explain the purpose, content and approach if required.

Teaching Sensitive Issues

Sensitive and controversial issues are certain to arise in learning from real-life experience. During teacher consultation, staff have discussed how to deal with these and online CPD is available through the Oak Academy website. Teachers will be prepared to handle personal issues that may arise and deal with these sensitively following our school procedures. Any disclosures made will be dealt with following our safeguarding policy.

Ground rules are discussed and shared with children at the beginning of each session to set conditions where pupils feel safe to participate. Websites for further support are provided at the end of sensitive lesson for both teachers and pupils to access should they wish.

Questions from pupils are answered honestly, factually and in an age-appropriate manner. Where questions fall outside of the planned curriculum or are inappropriate. Teachers will use professional judgement and follow safeguarding procedures where necessary.

Assessment

Assessment in PSHE is primarily formative. Teachers will assess pupils through:

- Classroom discussion
- High-level questioning
- Observation

- Retrieval activities
- Written responses

Assessment focuses on pupils' understanding, vocabulary, skills and ability to apply learning rather than personal beliefs or experiences.

Safeguarding

All staff are aware that sometimes disclosures may be made during these sessions; in which case, safeguarding procedures must be followed immediately. Sometimes it is clear that certain children may need time to talk one-to-one after the circle / lesson closes. It is important to allow the time and appropriate staffing for this to happen. If disclosures occur, the school's safeguarding policy is followed.

Prevent

Our PSHE curriculum addresses the extremism implicitly, through underpinning learning such as resilience, strategies for managing peer influence, online safety and learning to accept and respect diversity. This underpinning, implicit learning is integrated throughout the curriculum, for all ages. The Hague Institute for Social Justice (Macaluso, 2016) references the need for underpinning to begin at primary level:

"...primary education is a necessary, even critical stage of intervention because of its potential to influence and shape attitudes and behaviours... Teaching peace values and combining efforts at school and at home during a child's early years prepare children for adolescence, when they will be confronted with choices, competing ideologies, and different forms of social pressure."

This is exemplified in many learning opportunities in Key Stages 1 and 2, for example:

Key Stage 1:

- Children learn to identify and respect the differences and similarities between people
- They are taught to recognise different types of bullying and teasing and to understand that these are wrong and unacceptable
- They learn the people and other living things have rights and that everyone has responsibilities to protect those rights

Key Stage 2:

- Children learn to recognise the nature and consequences of discrimination and bullying (including cyber bullying, the use of prejudice-based language, trolling and how to respond and ask for help)
- They learn to appreciate and celebrate the range of national, regional, religious and ethical identities and cultures in the UK
- Children consider the lives of people living in other parts of the world, whose lives are very different to theirs, and that people have different values and customs
- They are taught to critically examine what is presented to them in social media and to be aware that information contained in social media can misrepresent or mislead.

Monitoring and Review

The quality of our PSHE provision is monitored by PSHE subject leaders and SLT through:

- Lesson observations and learning walks
- Pupil voice
- Assessment information
- Online journal monitoring
- Staff feedback

Equality

At Victoria Road Primary School, we are committed to providing an inclusive PSHE curriculum that reflects the diversity of modern Britain and promotes respect for all.

In accordance with the Equality Act 2010, teaching is accessible to all pupils regardless of age, disability, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation. Learning is adapted where necessary to meet individual needs while ensuring all pupils access the statutory curriculum.

Our teaching promotes dignity, respect and inclusion, challenges stereotypes and prejudice, and encourages pupils to value difference. Resources are selected to ensure they are accurate, age-appropriate, evidence-informed and representative of the diverse society in which pupils live.

The school is committed to working in partnership with parents and carers while fulfilling its statutory responsibilities to provide a broad and balanced curriculum that prepares pupils for life in modern Britain.