



PHSE Policy

Introduction

The Education Reform Act 1988 states that the school curriculum should be one which:

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

This policy outlines the purpose, nature and management of PSHE at The Beeches Independent Special School and has been developed in consultation with all stakeholders, including governors, staff, pupils and parents/carers.

PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education but also known as Personal, Social, Health and Economic education)

PSHE Curriculum

Our PSHE curriculum has been developed in consultation with various stakeholders, including governors, staff, pupils and parents/carers and takes into account the context of the school and its pupils.

The topics covered include:

- Families and people who care for me
- Caring friendships and respectful relationships
- Internet safety, safe online relationships and the risks of online relationships
- Mental wellbeing
- Basic first aid, physical health and fitness, health and fitness, healthy eating, risks to health, e.g. drugs, alcohol and tobacco
- Key facts about puberty and the changing adolescent body
- Sex education

This PSHE curriculum has been planned in the context of our broader curriculum intent, and the delivery of this part of the curriculum is one of the ways in which we seek to realise our vision. It reflects teachings about human beings and healthy relationships, including the belief that all people are treated with dignity and respect. This enables our pupils to understand that they should value the gift of themselves and recognise and respect this gift in others by seeking out healthy relationships. It will also help them understand a range of views on the importance of long-term relationships as building blocks for family stability.

Delivery of PSHE

PSHE is taught as a distinct subject and as part of the curriculum. Biological aspects of PSHE are taught within the Science curriculum and some elements of RSE (Relationship and Sex Education) may be taught within the Humanities curriculum, with students exploring the different religious and cultural views and practices from around the world. The school uses a range of resources to deliver effective PSHE and all staff involved in delivering PSHE receive appropriate training and support. Pupil progress and attainment in PSHE are continually monitored, reflecting the school-wide practice.

All PSHE is delivered with an understanding that pupils and staff may be personally engaged in different structures of support and familial relationships, including: single parent families, LGBTQ+ families, families headed by grandparents, civil partnership families, adoptive parents, foster parents/carers, young carers, and so on. The PSHE curriculum has been carefully designed to ensure that no person feels stigmatised or discriminated against and that no student feels uncomfortable in their learning environment.

RSE (Relationship and Sex Education)

RSE is taught as part of the PSHE curriculum and is about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, healthy relationships, sex, human sexuality and sexual health. It is also about the spiritual and moral aspects of relationships within the context of the purpose of life. Through PSHE in schools, pupils will have the chance to learn about how to ensure that they treat themselves and others, at all times and in all contexts, with dignity and respect.

Relationship Education is learning how to:

- Be appreciative of existing relationships
- Form new healthy relationships
- Enjoy strong positive, non-exploitative, caring relationships online and in person.

This will particularly reference family relationships, including: marriage, friendships, relationships and partnerships with peers and adults.

At The Beeches Independent School, we include RSE in our curriculum to protect and prepare the children in our school.

Statutory Requirements

We must provide Relationships Education to all pupils as per section 34 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017. We do not have to follow the National Curriculum, but we are required to offer all pupils a curriculum that is similar in breadth and depth to the National Curriculum, including requirements to teach science, which would include the elements of sex education contained within the Primary Science curriculum.

In teaching PSHE, we adhere to the guidance issued by the Secretary of State as outlined in Section 403 of the Education Act 1996.

At The Beeches Independent School, we teach PSHE as defined in this policy.

Parental Right to Withdraw from Sex Education

Parents/guardians do not have the right to withdraw their children from Relationships Education. Elements of Sex Education are included in the Science curriculum and parents/guardians do not have the right to withdraw their children from the Science curriculum.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-science elements of Sex Education within PSHE. Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing to the Head of Education, Emma Sutters. Withdrawing your child from Sex Education remains a statutory right as a parent or legal guardian.