

Downs Way School Policy for PSHE and Citizenship

Aims

Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Citizenship help to give pupils the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to lead confident, healthy, independent lives and to become informed, active, responsible citizens. Pupils are encouraged to take part in a wide range of activities and experiences across and beyond the curriculum, contributing fully to the life of their school and communities. In doing so they learn to recognise their own worth, work well with others and become increasingly responsible for their own learning. They reflect on their experiences and understand how they are developing personally and socially, tackling many of the spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues that are part of growing up. They also find out about the main political and social institutions that affect their lives and about their responsibilities, rights and duties as individuals and members of communities. They 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 objectives:-

- 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
- Become healthy and fulfilled individuals

How is PSHE organised in the School?

PSHE is timetabled at least 3 times a week in each class through circle -time. It is also taught through cross-curricular opportunities, for example Healthy Lifestyles within Science. We have enrichment activities such as the 'Life Bus' to support the curriculum. School trips and sleepovers at the end of term for Year Two children make an important contribution to the pupils' personal and social development.

Assemblies support the delivery of PSHE through planned themes and are used to launch specific themes, for example respect, caring and sharing.

What is the content of the school's PSHE programme?

The school makes cross curricular links wherever possible and uses the National Curriculum guidance to identify the links. Provision is monitored against the County's 'Pupils' Personal and Social Development' file in order to identify coverage and gaps. Coverage details of our provision are set out at the end of this document.

How are parents involved?

The school believes that it is important to have the support of parents and the wider community for the PSHE programme. Parents are always given the opportunity to find out about and discuss the school's curriculum through

- parent awareness sessions

- information leaflets/displays

As the school develops PSHE through programmes like THE HEALTHY SCHOOLS AWARD the involvement of parents will become more specifically linked to PSHE matters.

The SEAL programme has developed from PHSE. SEAL stands for the Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning. Its aim is to give children a grounding in connecting with their feelings and giving them the language to articulate how they feel, so they will be better able to deal with their emotions.

The role of visiting speakers:-

Visiting speakers from the community, e.g. health promotion specialists, school nurses, community police and fire officers make a valuable contribution to the PSHE programme. This input will be monitored and wherever possible fitted into the planned programme. Teachers are always present during these sessions and remain responsible for the delivery of the PSHE programme.

Teaching and Learning:-

Methods of approach

A variety of teaching and learning styles are used to deliver PSHE which take into account pupils' stage of development, understanding and needs. Pupils need to work in a safe, secure climate to be able to explore their own and others' attitudes, values and skills.

PSHE/Citizenship sessions will involve a high level of interaction where each pupil has planned opportunities for learning through:-

- the development of a trusting relationship between the teacher and the pupils enabling the consideration of sensitive issues to take place
- collaborative work
- opportunities for reflection
- challenge within a safe environment
- respect for each genuinely made contribution
- negotiation
- accommodating new information and skills
- building on current experience and using first-hand learning to achieve positive ends

Monitoring and Evaluation

The PSHE coordinator will monitor delivery of the programme through observation and discussion with the teaching staff to ensure consistent and coherent curriculum provision.

- Pupil and teacher evaluation of the content and learning processes
- Staff meetings to review and share experiences
- Assessment of pupil learning objectives

Links with other policies

We recognise the clear link between PSHE and the following policies and staff are aware of the need to refer to these policies where appropriate

- Drugs and alcohol
- Teaching and learning
- Equal opportunities

- Child Protection
- Science

Training and support for staff in PSHE

Training needs are identified through the school's performance management cycle and linked to staff development on the SDP. In addition to this, 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.

Governor links

The governor responsible for PSHE reviews the way the subject is taught throughout the school with the coordinator and reports to the Governing Body on the effectiveness of the teaching and learning in PHSE.

Reviewed Spring Term 2013

Next Review Spring Term 2016