

THORPE HALL

SCHOOL

Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education Policy (PSHCE)

Overview

PSHCE is at the centre of teaching and learning at Thorpe Hall School. It has a positive influence on the ethos and relationships within the school and requires commitment and understanding from the whole school community. Through the PSHCE programme all pupils learn to recognise their own worth, work well with others and become increasingly responsible for their own learning. They reflect on their experiences and learn to understand how they are developing personally and socially, tackling many of the spiritual, moral and cultural issues that are part of growing up.

Pupils find out about the main political and social institutions that affect their lives and about responsibilities, rights and duties as individuals and members of communities. They learn to understand and respect humanity, diversity, differences and how to deal with the increasing influence of peer and the media so that they can go on to form effective, fulfilling relationships that are an essential part of life and learning. Pupils also learn that feelings and emotions exist on a continuum, which is not fixed. Pupils are taught how to manage changing emotions effectively. This will enable students to leave Thorpe Hall School able to make a full and active contribution to society, aware of Fundamental British Values.

Through the PSHCE programme of study (and in other opportunities within and extra to the curriculum – see below) pupils learn age-appropriate strategies to stay safe, recognising the signs of danger to their self and wellbeing and how to avoid danger. This includes e-safety, safe use of mobile devices, being ‘streetwise’ and understanding the nature and signs of bullying.

At Thorpe Hall School we believe it is important that many of the skills and attitudes we wish pupils to develop are taught and demonstrated throughout the whole school in a variety of ways, all of which are supported and discussed in PSHCE lessons. For example:

- School Assemblies covering various themes, for example, diversity, bullying and internet safety
- School Trips (Residential and Day)
- School Council (Junior and Senior)
- Extra Curricula activities
- Fund Raising
- C.I.R.C.L.E (taught through Competency Based Curriculum)
- Learning 123
- Prefects and Monitors
- House Point System
- Rewards and Sanctions.
- Academic Society
- Girls on Board (GOB) – helping girls manage their friendships
- Boys on Board (BOB) – helping boys with motivation

Through PSHCE lessons throughout the school pupils are taught how to access help both within school and through outside agencies.

PSHCE is staffed by teachers who have a desire and ability to teach this subject area and they are supported by the Head of PSHCE in the Upper School and by the Co-Heads of Lower School in the Lower School. We also employ outside experts to teach and advise when needed.

In 2016 Thorpe Hall School was awarded Healthy Schools Status. We are proud of this achievement as it recognises the work that we do, in school, every day to ensure that our pupils grow to be healthy, safe and responsible citizens.

PROGRAMMES OF STUDY

Lower School

Valuable opportunities for PSHCE arise naturally during the school day. However, to rely on these alone would not guarantee entitlement of learning for all pupils so in the Lower School PSHCE is delivered as a separate subject, with a timetabled 30 minute session per week, and labelled 'PSHCE'. All teaching tries to promote safety and has regard to the safeguarding policy.

The PSHCE curriculum in Reception and Key Stages 1 and 2 is delivered in a 'spiral' and covers the following topics and headings:

E-Safety – including: safe use of mobile devices and online safety including photos.

Meta Learning – including: learning to learn (Learning 1,2,3), goal setting and communication.

British Values – including: PREVENT, diversity, fundamental British values, charities and rights and responsibilities.

People Who Can Help Us – including: Childline, NSPCC PANTS and C.E.O.P.

Relationships Education – including: family networks, boundaries, friendships and bullying.

Life Skills – including: independence, healthy life styles, body care, choices and consequences.

Life Cycles – changes and reproduction.

Staying Safe – identifying risks, stranger danger, in the house and out and about.

Emotions – emotional wellbeing and relationships.

Upper School

Valuable opportunities for PSHCE arise naturally during the school day. However, to rely on these alone would not guarantee entitlement of learning for all pupils so in the Upper School PSHCE is delivered as a separate subject, with a timetabled 40 minute session per week, and labelled 'Morals and Ethics'. All teaching tries to promote safety and has regard to the safeguarding policy.

The PSHCE curriculum in Key Stages 3 and 4 is delivered in a 'spiral' and covers the following topics and headings:

E-Safety – including: sexting, safe use of mobile devices, child sexual exploitation, grooming.

Meta Learning – including: study skills, learning to learn (Learning 1,2,3), philosophy.

Society – including: PREVENT, citizenship, UK Politics, diversity, fundamental British values.

Mental Health – including: emotional awareness, relationships, personal identity, relationship between mind and body.

Relationships Education – including: domestic violence, ‘controlling’ relationships, friendships, bullying.

Drugs Education

Sex Education

Life Skills – including: finance, healthy life styles, preparation for adult life.

PSHCE – Curriculum links

Learning opportunities for PSHCE exist across the curriculum through implementing appropriate strategies, for example, group work requiring communication and co-operation, evident in particular in Drama. Cross-curricula lessons related to areas of content include Science, English, History and PE.

Equal Opportunities

Thorpe Hall School aims to provide a broad, balanced, relevant and continuous curriculum to all its pupils, irrespective of age, gender, culture or ability, within a caring and nurturing environment, in which all individuals are valued, listened to and respected.

Links

This policy has regard to Thorpe Hall Schools’ policies on:

- Aims and Philosophy of Thorpe Hall School
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Competency Based Curriculum
- Discipline, Rewards and Sanctions
- Safeguarding Children

And Thorpe Hall Staff Handbook policies on:

- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Drugs Policy
- Equal Opportunity Policy

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