PSHE Citizenship Policy

2026/2027

Nourishing the Human Potential

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

Aims and Objectives

Personal, social and health education (PSHE) and citizenship enables children to become healthy, independent and responsible members of society. We encourage our pupils to play a positive role in contributing to the life of the school and the wider community. In so doing, we help develop their sense of self-worth. We teach them how society is organized and governed. We ensure that they experience the process of democracy in school through the school meetings. We teach them about rights and responsibilities. They learn to appreciate what it means to be a positive member of a diverse multicultural society.

The aims of personal, social and health education and citizenship are to enable the children to:

1. Know and understand what constitutes a healthy lifestyle;
2. Be aware of safety issues;
3. Understand what makes for good relationships with others;
4. Have respect for self and others;
5. Be independent and responsible members of the school community;
6. Be positive and active members of a democratic society;
7. Develop self-confidence and self-esteem, and make informed choices regarding personal and social issues;
8. Develop good relationships with other members of the school and the wider community.
9. Become aware of their own and other's behaviour and understand that certain behaviour is unacceptable.

Teaching and Learning Styles

We use a range of teaching and learning styles. As a Montessori school, we place emphasis on active learning by including the children in discussions, investigations, and problem-solving activities. We encourage the children to take part in a range of practical activities that promote active citizenship, e.g. caring for their environment, the planning of school special events and involvement in an activity to help other individuals or groups less fortunate than themselves.

We organise classes in such a way that pupils are able to participate in discussion to resolve conflicts or set agreed classroom rules or behaviour.

PSHE and Citizenship Curriculum Planning

Infant Toddler/Children's House (1-6 years)

We relate to PSHE and citizenship aspects of the children's work in the objectives set out in the Foundation Stage. Our teaching in PSHE and citizenship matches the aim of developing a child's personal, emotional and social development. That is in fact the foundation upon which our curriculum is based. We help children understand their impact on themselves, others, and their environment. They learn to care for themselves, care for others, and for their environment, through Practical Life activities and Grace and Courtesy Lessons. They are encouraged to be contributing members of their community, to help others when in need, and act as leaders and models for their peers.

Elementary/Secondary

We teach PSHE and citizenship in a variety of ways. All children contribute to the care for their environment and their community. They participate in cooking and beautifying their environment. They are assigned specific tasks they are in charge of, including cleaning, managing an area of the environment, and supporting peers in their learning, both within their environment and within younger environments. They participate in Community Meetings, where rules and processes are debated, as well as Socratic Circles, where they learn to debate and accept other people's opinions, perspectives, and beliefs.

Many soft skills, such as positive communication and conflict resolution, are fully integrated within the curriculum. Students receive lessons in these and are provided opportunities to practice in real-life situations – whether they find themselves within a specific situation, or acting as mediators to help resolve a conflict between their peers.

We may call for specialists when we find the need.

PSHE and Citizenship is linked closely to other cross-curricular subjects offered in our environments, including:

- Drugs education
- Dealing with Bullying
- School Behaviour and Discipline
- Health and Safety
- Equal Opportunities
- Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development

The way the Curriculum is managed, its organisation and the varying teaching styles used are central to the School's philosophy and ethos, its aims, attitudes and values.

Citizenship

Citizenship comprises three interrelated strands.

1. Social and moral responsibility –pupils learn self-confidence, and social and moral responsible behaviour towards authority and each other.
2. Community involvement – pupils learn to become involved in the life and concerns of their immediate and wider community.
3. Political literacy – pupils learn about the issues, problems and practices of democracy.

Through a variety of learning experiences, the school helps each student:

- know him/herself better and think well of, and respect, him/herself and others
- develop confidence/independence and think and act for him/herself
- acquire personal qualities, values and social skills
- take his/her place in a wide range of roles in preparation for adult life, to deal with risk and meet the challenges of life and to play an active role as a member of society
- value and respect belongings/living things/environment
- be able to share/co-operate
- value their achievements, develop intrinsic motivation
- identify moral values and strive to live up to them.

Teaching PSHE and citizenship to children with special needs

We teach PSHE and citizenship to all children, regardless of their ability. Our teachers provide learning opportunities matched to the individual needs of the children with learning difficulties.

Assessment and recording

Teachers assess the children's understanding in PSHE and citizenship by making informal judgements as they observe them at school.