

PSHCE Intent Statement

In PSHCE at KS3 and KS4, we aim to equip our students with the essential skills and knowledge to navigate personal, social, and emotional challenges effectively, fostering their growth into resilient, empathetic, and socially responsible individuals.

Our programme of study is rooted in our school values of Inclusion, Aspiration, Perseverance, and Independence.

PSHCE provides a wealth of opportunities to explore the cultural, social, and ethical contexts that have shaped both our past and the diverse world we live in today. Through this, students can develop a deeper understanding of their own emotions, thoughts, and actions, as well as those of others. The curriculum enables us to engage with a broad range of social, moral, spiritual, and cultural issues, allowing students to connect meaningfully with the wider world and the knowledge they have gained in other subjects.

At KS3, students begin to develop a foundation in understanding personal well-being, building resilience, and forming positive relationships. In Year 7, the focus is on self-worth, anti-bullying, and developing friendships. By Years 8 and 9, students explore complex topics such as family roles, conflict resolution, and coping with bereavement. These topics encourage empathy and critical thinking, preparing students to navigate their own personal challenges and support others.

At KS4, students deepen their understanding of relationships and personal well-being. In Year 10, the curriculum addresses essential topics such as consent and the influences of media, equipping students with the skills to analyse and critically engage with the world around them. By Year 11, the focus shifts to effective communication, understanding intimacy, and handling the challenges of adult relationships. These studies build on the knowledge and skills gained at KS3, empowering students to approach personal and social situations with confidence and maturity.

Throughout both key stages, students develop key skills in confidence, empathy, and critical thinking. They learn to recognise and challenge bullying, discrimination, and other social issues in a supportive and inclusive environment. The emphasis on open discussion and active engagement ensures students feel empowered to apply these skills both in school and in the wider world, fostering a sense of citizenship and social responsibility.

In PSHCE, we also value the importance of communication. Through structured discussions, group work, and presentations, students develop their ability to express themselves clearly and confidently in both formal and informal settings. This emphasis on spoken communication helps students to explore and interrogate key ideas while building their capacity for leadership and active participation in their communities.

Our PSHCE curriculum is designed to ensure that students leave school as well-rounded individuals who are prepared to engage meaningfully with the complexities of modern life.