

## **The PCSHE Curriculum at Five Acres High School**

*In PCSHE we learn about relationships, living in the wider world, and health and wellbeing to prepare us for life in modern Britain.*

### **Intent**

#### **Why should all pupils learn this subject?**

Personal, Citizenship, Social, Health, Economic Education (PCSHE) provides 'a curriculum for life' and is fundamental to the way that children grow as individuals. It is therefore an important part of our curriculum at Five Acres High School. PCSHE helps students consider what is important to them, now and in the future. It provides them with a platform to voice their own opinions and to learn to listen and respect the opinions of others. Throughout their time at Five Acres High School, students will develop essential communication skills; debating, reasoning, collaborating and motivating others. PCSHE helps to develop students' confidence whilst embedding our core values of Ambition, Confidence, Creativity, Respect, and Determination. Throughout their time at our school they will be encouraged to think about personal values and develop their capacity to be active and effective future citizens who can make informed decisions about their life. It also makes a significant contribution to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development, their behaviour and safety, and to their emotional wellbeing. Our world is becoming increasingly complex with the greater use of technology, and is providing new challenges such as sexting and pornography. It is therefore essential that all pupils are given all the tools and knowledge to navigate any situations they might face in school, outside of school or in the future.

#### **What is the core knowledge in this subject?**

Core knowledge in PCSHE can be broken down into the following components.

Substantive concepts:

- Relationships (including:
- Living in the Wider World (including:
- Health and Wellbeing (including:

Disciplinary concepts:

- Emotional literacy - self-awareness, social skills, empathy, motivation and managing feelings
- Responsibility - personal responsibility, responsibility towards others, relationships, world of work, staying safe and health
- Resilience - developing strategies for resilience, ambition, personal best, managing emotions
- Written and oral expression - using social and emotional literacy to confidently discuss experiences, making comparisons and links, explanations, awareness of the audience and using evidence to support statements.

## **Implementation**

### **How is this subject taught at FAHS?**

Five Acres High School allocates a 55 min PCSHE lesson once per fortnight for all KS3 and KS4 students, as well drawing upon cross curricular links and content e.g. science – puberty, Physical Education – maintaining a healthy lifestyle. An overview of the learning theme of each term can be found in the PCSHE policy on the school's website. The themes of relationships, living in the wider world and health and wellbeing are taught across the school; the learning deepens and broadens every year in each year group.

These explicit lessons are reinforced and enhanced in many ways through:

- Assemblies
- Cross curricular links and content (e.g. Science, RE & PE) – see appendix one for more details on these links.
- Guest Speakers and outside agencies
- Praise and reward systems
- Character Education and Careers
- Through relationships, student to student, adult to student and adult to adult across the school.

### **What are the key ways students practise in this subject?**

Students are encouraged to debate, discuss and challenge themselves (and others) throughout the curriculum. They are encouraged to think independently and apply their knowledge to a variety of scenarios. The independent written tasks within lessons allow time for reflection of these complex issues. All the tasks included within the curriculum allow pupils to deepen their understanding of the British Values of Democracy, Tolerance, Mutual Respect, Rule of Law and Individual Liberty.

## **Impact**

### **What does assessment look like in this subject?**

Progress in PCSHE looks like a change or reconfirmation of skills and strategies, knowledge and understanding and attributes and attitudes. In terms of knowledge teachers measure changes in knowledge, understanding and the use of vocabulary in answers through questioning and a variety of activities. We also look for changes in pupils' ability to use certain skills to apply this knowledge. Finally, we also measure pupils' confidence to share their opinions and self-correct any assumptions they make. Teachers assess pupils' understanding during lessons. Each lesson begins with a mini quiz, designed to revisit key knowledge from previous lessons, units and year groups. These quizzes provide further formative opportunities to assess learning over time. Students are also expected to self-assess their understanding of a topic prior to and at the end of each lesson. Formative assessment tasks are integrated into each booklet given to the students to check understanding.