Rooks Nest Academy

PHSE Policy

Respect, Believe, Achieve

1 Aims and objectives

1.1 At Rooks Nest Academy we believe that education in PSHE enables children to become healthier, more independent and more 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. We teach them how society is organised and governed. We ensure that the children experience pupil voice and democracy through participation as School team Captains and consultation on issues affecting their role within the academy. We teach children about their rights and about their responsibilities, so they learn to appreciate what it means to be a positive member of a diverse and multi-cultural society.

1.2 Our objectives in the teaching of PSHE are underpinned by the Academy ethos of **Respect, Believe, Achieve:**

- to know and understand what is meant by a healthy lifestyle;
- to be aware of safety issues;
- to be a good citizen
- to understand what makes for good relationships with others;
- to have respect for others;
- to be thoughtful and responsible members of their community and their school;
- to become active members of our democratic society;
- to develop self-confidence and self-esteem;
- to make informed choices regarding personal and social issues;
- To develop good relationships with other members of the community.
- to be aware of and understand the importance of British Values.

2 Teaching and learning style

2.1 We use a range of teaching and learning styles to meet the PSHE requirements of government legislation on the teaching of Personal, social, health and economic education. We emphasise active learning by including the children in discussions, investigations, and problem-solving activities. We encourage the children to take part in a range of tasks that promote active citizenship both in the local and wider community including their involvement in helping other individuals or groups less fortunate than themselves. Delivery is through Quality First Teaching with additional support and guidance from the pastoral team.

PSHE cannot always be confined to specific timetabled time but is delivered through a variety of methods to enhance the topic. Within a whole school approach this includes:

- Quality first teaching using the 'One Decision' PSHE scheme of work and the POLED scheme of work.
- Teaching PSHE and Citizenship through and in other subjects/curriculum areas
- Specialised assemblies
- PSHE and Citizenship activities and school events
- Pastoral care and guidance
- Visiting speakers
- Forest Schools

In addition to this Children will raise funds and take part in community projects concerning local charities.

3 PSHE Curriculum Planning

3.1 We provide a delivery of the curriculum which is responsive to the individual cohort needs and this can involve the teaching of discrete lessons. On occasions, we introduce PSHE and Citizenship topics through teaching in other subjects. We acknowledge that can be an overlap between the programme of study for Science and Religious Education enabling us to use a creative approach to teaching the curriculum.

3.2 We also promote PSHE through various activities and whole-school events. We offer a residential visit in Key Stage 2 to Robinwood for Year 6 and Boggle Hole for Year 4, where there is a particular focus on developing pupils' self-esteem, and giving them opportunities to develop leadership skills and positive group work.

3.3 We use a variety of resources within class and support those with additional needs in small, focussed intervention groups. We also use the Risk and Resilience framework with Upper Key Stage 2. The pastoral team will use intervention methods with individual groups and pupils as deemed appropriate.

4 The Foundation Stage

4.1 We teach PSHE in Early Years as an integral part of our topic work. PSHE and citizenship aspects of the children's work are linked to the objectives set out in the personal, emotional, and social development section of the Foundation Stage Curriculum.

5 PSHE and ICT

5.1 ICT contributes to the teaching of PSHE in that children in ICT classes learn to work together in a collaborative manner. They also develop a sense of global citizenship by using the Internet and e-mail. Through discussion of safety and other issues related to electronic communication, the children develop their own view about the use and misuse of ICT. E-safety is positively promoted throughout the Academy.

6 PSHE and Citizenship and Inclusion

6.1 We teach PSHE to all children, regardless of their ability. We provide learning opportunities matched to the individual needs of children with learning difficulties. We use Class Targets and Individual Targets as a way of improving self-esteem and cooperation between children.

6.2 Vulnerable children are given access to the PHSE curriculum through work in lessons. The pastoral team supports pupils to access a range of interventions supporting their social and emotional well-being on an individual or small group basis.

6.3 The Mental Health of children & their parents were and continues to be a focus in the Academy.

7 Assessment for learning

7.1 Our teachers assess the children's work in PSHE by making informal judgements, as they observe them during lessons. We have clear expectations of what the pupils will know, understand and be able to do at the end of each Key Stage.

7.2 We acknowledge the achievements of our pupils from within the Academy and external activities in celebration assemblies to promote the positive contribution to the life of the school and the community.

7.4 We do not set formal assessments in PSHE. The assessments that we make of pupil achievement are positive and record achievement in its widest sense.

8 Monitoring and review

8.1 The planning and teaching of PSHE are the responsibility of the Pastoral team and Class Teacher who will be supported by teaching assistants. The Senior Leadership Team will:

- supports colleagues in their teaching, by keeping informed about current developments in the subject, and by providing a strategic lead and direction for PSHE;
- Have meetings with the PHSE Governor to give him/her feedback on what is happening in school with regards PHSE and Citizenship so that he/she can report back to the Governing Body.
- This policy on PSHE and Citizenship is also linked to the following policies: Behaviour; Health and Safety; Sex and Relationship Education, Safeguarding, E-safety.

8.2 This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it complies with changes in government legislation and changes to the National Curriculum.

Reviewed September 2025 S.Brooks (Inclusion Manager)