

A place to learn where everyone feels welcome;
based on love, wisdom, and respect.



PSHE and RSHE Policy

Approved by Governors:	April 2025
Review Date:	April 2026

Introduction

All schools must provide a curriculum that is broadly based, balanced, and meets the needs of all pupils. Under section 78 of the Education Act 2002 and the Academies Act 2010, a PSHE curriculum:

- Promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental, and physical development of pupils at the school and of society, and
- Prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities, and experiences of later life.

An amendment to the Children and Social Work Act 2017 made **Relationships and Health Education** at primary, and Relationships, Sex, and Health Education at secondary, statutory subjects. The DfE guidance on Relationships, Health and Sex Education for governing bodies and schools became active from September 2020.

The Jigsaw Programme covers all aspects of Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) within the context of a full PSHE programme in an age-appropriate way. Should changes to these curriculum areas occur in the future, Jigsaw will provide its schools with materials to ensure all statutory duties are fulfilled.

This Jigsaw PSHE policy is also informed by DfE guidance on Relationships, Sex and Health Education (as above), [preventing and tackling bullying](#) (Preventing and tackling bullying: Advice for head teachers, staff and governing bodies, July 2013, updated 2017), [Drug and Alcohol Education](#) (DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools: Advice for local authorities, headteachers, school staff and governing bodies, September 2012), [safeguarding](#) (Working Together to Safeguard Children: A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, March 2013 and [Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2018](#)) and [equality](#) (Equality Act 2010: Advice for school leaders, school staff, governing bodies and local authorities, revised June 2014). It also draws on the advice given in the [Church of England](#) document 'Valuing All God's Children: Guidance for Church of England schools on challenging homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying' (Church of England Education Office, [second edition updated summer 2019](#)).

The Jigsaw Programme meets all the outcomes in the PSHE Association Programmes of Study, 2017.

Aim of this PSHE & RSHE policy

At Lower Peover, we aim to provide pupils with the knowledge, understanding, attitudes, values, and skills they need in order to reach their potential as individuals and within the community. As a Church school, this intent is underpinned by:

Matthew 5:15

"Let your light shine, so that others may see the good you do."

Pupils are encouraged to take part in a wide range of activities and experiences across and beyond the curriculum, contributing fully to the life of their school and communities. In doing so, they learn to recognise their own worth, work well with others and become increasingly responsible for their own learning. They reflect on their experiences and understand how they are developing personally and socially, tackling many of the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural issues that are part of growing up.

They learn to understand and respect our common humanity; diversity and differences so that they can go on to form the effective, fulfilling relationships that are an essential part of life and learning.

In our school we choose to deliver Personal, Social, Health Education using Jigsaw, the mindful approach to PSHE.

Pupil Learning Intentions:

Jigsaw PSHE will support the development of the skills, attitudes, values, and behaviour, which enable pupils to:

- Have a sense of purpose
- Value self and others - **RESPECT**
- Form relationships – **COMPASSION & FORGIVENESS**
- Make decisions and act on informed decisions - **COURAGE**
- Communicate effectively
- Work with others
- Respond to challenge - **PERSEVERANCE**
- Be an active partner in their own learning
- Be active citizens within the local community - **SERVICE**
- Explore issues related to living in a democratic society
- Become healthy and fulfilled individuals

Our core values are shown in Purple and our mission statement is as follows:

A place to learn where everyone feels welcome; based on love, wisdom, and respect.

Jigsaw Content

Jigsaw covers all areas of PSHE for the primary phase, as the following table shows:

Term	Puzzle name	Content
Autumn 1:	Being Me in My World	Includes understanding my place in the class, school, and global community as well as devising Learning Charters
Autumn 2:	Celebrating Difference	Includes anti-bullying (cyber and homophobic bullying included) and diversity work
Spring 1:	Dreams and Goals	Includes goal setting, aspirations, and resilience building
Spring 2:	Healthy Me	Includes drugs and alcohol education, self-esteem and confidence as well as healthy lifestyle choices (on and offline)
Summer 1:	Relationships	Includes understanding friendship, family and other relationships, conflict resolution and communication skills
Summer 2:	Changing Me	Includes Sex and Relationship Education in the context of looking at and managing change

Relationship and Sex Education (Relationships, Sex and Health Education)

Definition of Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE)

From September 2020, Relationships Education is compulsory for all primary schools as set out in the DfE Guidance (2019). For all maintained schools there is also a statutory duty to provide Health Education. This includes primary aged children learning about the '*changing adolescent body*', included in the expected outcomes for primary Health Education. (Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education, and Health Education, DfE, 2019). There is a current statutory duty for Independent schools to provide PSHE and they must meet the Independent School Standards as set out in the Education (Independent School Regulations 2014). Independent schools may find the DfE guidance on Relationships Education, Sex Education and Health Education useful in planning and age-appropriate curriculum.

All primary schools are legally obliged to have an up-to-date policy for Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) that describes the content and organisation of RSE. In primary schools if the decision is taken to teach sex education beyond Relationships and Health Education and National curriculum Science, this should also be documented in the policy. The policy should be made available to parents/carers on request and also available on the school's website. It is the school governors' responsibility to ensure that the policy is developed and implemented effectively.

Effective Relationships and Sex Education can make a significant contribution to the development of the personal skills needed by pupils if they are to establish and maintain relationships. It also enables children and young people to make responsible and informed decisions about their health and wellbeing. This is why the DfE recommend:

"... that all primary schools should have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the pupils. It should ensure that both boys and girls are prepared for the changes that adolescence brings and – drawing on knowledge of the human life cycle set out in the national curriculum for science - how a baby is conceived and born." (Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education, and Health Education, DfE, 2019, para 67).

Compulsory aspects of Relationships, Sex and Health Education.

End of primary expectations and curriculum content is given in the Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education, and Health Education DfE guidance (2019). It is up to schools to determine how this is taught as part of a broad and balanced curriculum. Where a school delivers this as part of a whole programme of PSHE, such as Jigsaw, they are free to continue with this approach.

The sex education contained in National Curriculum science (Key Stages 1–4) is compulsory in maintained schools.

- 'All children, including those who develop earlier than average, need to know about puberty before they experience the onset of physical changes' (1.13)
- Children should learn 'how a baby is conceived and born' before they leave primary school (1.16)

RSHE plays a very important part in fulfilling the statutory duties all schools have to meet. RSHE helps children understand the difference between safe and abusive relationships and equips them with the skills to get help if they need it. It also teaches them about the importance of a healthy lifestyle and positive mental health, about online and off-line safety. Schools have responsibilities for safeguarding and a legal duty to promote pupil well-being (Education and Inspections Act 2006 Section 38).

- Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) is an important part of PSHE Education (DfE, 2014).

- When any school provides RSE they must have regard to the Secretary of States guidance; this is a statutory duty. Ofsted will evaluate how schools help to ensure a healthy lifestyle for their children (Ofsted, 2019, Education Inspection Framework Para 28).
- It is compulsory for all maintained schools to teach the parts of sex education that fall under National Curriculum Science which must be taught to all pupils of primary and secondary age, e.g. the biological aspects of puberty and reproduction (Education Act 1996, National Curriculum 2014).

Updated government safeguarding guidance is now available ([Keeping children safe in education 2024](#)) and includes a section about being alert to signs that young girls may be at risk of female genital mutilation (FGM). School summer holidays especially during the transition from primary to secondary schools is thought to be a key risk time for FGM. See also the government [HM Government - Multi-agency statutory guidance on Female Genital Mutilation](#) which includes a section for schools.

RSHE has clear links with other school policies aimed at promoting pupils' spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development, including the:

- Anti-Bullying Policy: The Church of England document "Valuing all God's Children", 2019, states:

"Schools should ensure that they have clear anti-bullying policies on preventing and tackling homophobic, biphobic and transphobic behaviour and language and that these policies are known and understood by all members of the school community. School leaders should present a clear message that HBT bullying will not be tolerated and that there can be no justification for this negative behaviour based on the Christian faith or the Bible. Schools should ensure that pupils understand how to report incidents. Pupils should be confident that if they report bullying it will be taken seriously."

- Acceptable Use Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Confidentiality Policy
- Drug and Alcohol Education Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- ICT Policy and Safe Internet Use Policy
- SEND Policy
- RE Policy
- Child Protection Policy

The role of the Headteacher and Governing Board

It is the responsibility of the Governors to ensure that as well as fulfilling their legal obligations, the governing boards or management committee should also make sure that:

- all pupils make progress in achieving the expected educational outcomes in regard to RSHE.
- PSHE and RSHE is well led, effectively managed, and well planned.
- the quality of PSHE and RSHE provision is subject to regular and effective self-evaluation.
- teaching is delivered in ways that are accessible to all pupils with SEND.
- clear information is provided for parents on the subject content and the right to request that their child is withdrawn; and,
- the subjects are resourced, staffed, and timetabled in a way that ensures that the school can fulfil its legal obligations

The headteacher liaises with external agencies regarding the school RSHE programme and ensures that all adults who work with children on these issues are aware of the school policy, and that they work within this framework. The headteacher monitors this policy on a regular basis and reports to governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy. Parents should be consulted on the RSE policy and have the opportunity to express their views. They also must be informed of the limits of their right to withdraw their child from sex education and have the opportunity to do so within these limits.

Monitoring and Review

The headteacher monitors the PSHE and RSHE policy on an annual basis and reports findings and recommendations to the full governing body, as necessary, if the policy needs modification. The headteacher gives serious consideration to any comments from parents about the sex education programme and makes a record of all such comments. Governors require the headteacher to keep a written record, giving details of the content and delivery of the RSE programme that is taught in school. Governors should scrutinise materials to check they are in accordance with the school's ethos. Parents and carers have the right to see sample materials used within the teaching of RSE and can do so by prior appointment with a member of staff, or at any open evening the school chooses to hold about this curriculum area. As Jigsaw materials are copyrighted, the school is not permitted to put teaching materials on the public facing website or provide electronic copies of materials to parents and carers at home.

Equalities

The Equality Act 2010 covers the way the curriculum is delivered, as schools and other education providers must ensure that issues are taught in a way that does not subject pupils to discrimination. Schools have a duty under the Equality Act to ensure that teaching is accessible to all children and young people, including those who are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT). Inclusive RSHE will foster good relations between pupils, tackle all types of prejudice – including homophobia – and promote understanding and respect. The Department for Education has produced advice on The Equality Act 2010 and schools (DfE, 2014b).

Schools have a legal duty to promote equality (Equality Act, 2010) and to combat bullying (Education Act, 2006) (which includes homophobic, sexist, sexual and transphobic bullying) and Section 4.2 of the national curriculum (2014) states "Teachers should take account of their duties under equal opportunities legislation that covers race, disability, sex, religion or belief, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, and gender reassignment."

"Schools should be alive to issues such as everyday sexism, misogyny, homophobia, and gender stereotypes and take positive action to build a culture where these are not tolerated, and any occurrences are identified and tackled. Staff have an important role to play in modelling positive behaviours. School pastoral and behaviour policies should support all pupils." (DfE, 2019)

The Church of England Document "Valuing all God's Children", 2019 states:

"Central to Christian theology is the truth that every single one of us is made in the image of God. Every one of us is loved unconditionally by God. We must avoid, at all costs, diminishing the dignity of any individual to a stereotype or a problem. Church of England schools offer a community where everyone is a person known and loved by God, supported to know their intrinsic value" (page 1)

"Opportunities to discuss issues to do with self-esteem, identity, and bullying, including HBT (homophobic, biphobic and transphobic) bullying, should be included in physical, social, health and economic education or citizenship programmes. The curriculum should offer opportunities for pupils

to learn to value themselves and their bodies. Relationships and sex education should take LGBT people into account.” (Page 6)

At Lower Peover, we promote respect for all and value every individual child. We also respect the right of our children, their families, and our staff, to hold beliefs, religious or otherwise, and understand that sometimes these may be in tension with our approach to some aspects of Relationships, Health and Sex Education.

For further explanation as to how we approach LGBT relationships in the PSHE (RSHE) Programme please see:

‘Including and valuing all children. What does Jigsaw teach about LGBTQ relationships?’

Jigsaw RSE Content

The grid below shows specific RSE learning intentions for each year group in the ‘Changing Me’ Puzzle.

Year Group	Piece Number and Name	Learning Intentions ‘Pupils will be able to...’
EYFS	Piece 3 Growing Up	Understand how they have changed since they were babies
	Piece 4 Growth and Change	Understand and respect the changes they see in other people
1	Piece 3 My Changing Body	Understand that growing and changing is natural and it happens to everybody at different rates
	Piece 4 Boys’ and Girls’ Bodies	Identify the parts of the body that make boys different to girls and use the correct names for these: penis, testicles, vagina Respect their body and understand which parts are private
2	Piece 3 The Changing Me	Recognise how my body has changed since I was a baby and where I am on the continuum from young to old Feel proud about becoming more independent
	Piece 4 Boys’ and Girls’ Bodies	Recognise the physical differences between boys and girls, use the correct names for parts of the body (penis, testicles, vagina) and appreciate that some parts of my body are private Tell you what they like / don’t like about being a boy/girl
3	Piece 1 How Babies Grow	Understand that in animals and humans lots of changes happen between conception and growing up, and that usually it is the female who has the baby Express how they feel when they see babies or baby animals

	Piece 2 Babies	Understand how babies grow and develop in the mother's uterus and understand what a baby needs to live and grow Express how I might feel if I had a new baby in my family
	Piece 3 Outside Body Changes	Understand that boys' and girls' bodies need to change so that when they grow up their bodies can make babies Identify how boys' and girls' bodies change on the outside during this growing up process recognise how I feel about these changes happening to me and know how to cope with those feelings
	Piece 4 Inside Body Changes	Identify how boys' and girls' bodies change on the inside during the growing up process and why these changes are necessary so that their bodies can make babies when they grow up Recognise how they feel about these changes happening to them and how to cope with these feelings
4	Piece 2 Having A Baby	Correctly label the internal and external parts of male and female bodies that are necessary for making a baby Understand that having a baby is a personal choice and express how they feel about having children when they are an adult
	Piece 3 Girls and Puberty	Describe how a girl's body changes in order for her to be able to have babies when she is an adult, and that menstruation (having periods) is a natural part of this Know that I have strategies to help me cope with the physical and emotional changes I will experience during puberty
5	Piece 2 Puberty for Girls	Explain how a girl's body changes during puberty and understand the importance of looking after myself physically and emotionally Understand that puberty is a natural process that happens to everybody and that it will be OK for me
	Piece 3 Puberty for Boys	Describe how boys' and girls' bodies change during puberty Express how they feel about the changes that will happen to them during puberty
	Piece 4 Conception	Understand that sexual intercourse can lead to conception and that is how babies are usually made Understand that sometimes people need IVF to help them have a baby appreciate how amazing it is that human bodies can reproduce in these ways
6	Piece 2 Puberty	Explain how girls' and boys' bodies change during puberty and understand the importance of looking after themselves physically and emotionally Express how they feel about the changes that will happen to them during puberty

	Piece 3 Girl Talk/Boy Talk	Ask the questions they need answers to about changes during puberty Reflect on how they feel about asking the questions and about the answers they receive
	Piece 4 Babies – Conception to Birth	Describe how a baby develops from conception through the nine months of pregnancy, and how it is born Recognise how they feel when they reflect on the development and birth of a baby

Withdrawal from RSE lessons

Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from Sex Education provided at school, except for those parts included in statutory National Curriculum Science, and those included within statutory Relationships and Health Education. Those parents/carers wishing to exercise this right are invited in to see the headteacher and/or PSHE Jigsaw Lead in school who will explore any concerns and discuss any impact that withdrawal may have on the child. Once a child has been withdrawn, they cannot take part in the **specific sex education lessons** until the request for withdrawal has been removed. Materials are available to parents/carers who wish to supplement the school sex education programme or who wish to deliver sex education to their children at home. **Parents and carers cannot withdraw from any aspect of Relationships Education and also in maintained schools, Health Education lessons covering the changing adolescent body (puberty).**

Working with parents and carers

The government guidance on Relationships, Sex Education and Health Education (DfE, 2019) emphasises the importance of schools working in partnership with parents and carers. Parents/carers should be aware that schools are legally required to provide a broad and balanced curriculum. Sex and relationships topics can arise incidentally in other subjects, such as Science, Geography, History, RE, and it is not possible to withdraw pupils from these relatively limited and often unplanned discussions. Parents should be given every opportunity to understand the purpose and content of Relationships Education and RSHE. Good communication and opportunities for parents to understand and ask questions about the school's approach can help increase confidence in the curriculum.

Parents should also be aware that the Church of England states in "Valuing All God's Children", 2019, that RSE should: *"Make it clear that relationships and sex education is designed to prepare all pupils for the future, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. RSE must promote gender equality and LGBT equality and it must challenge discrimination. RSE must take the needs and experiences of LGBT people into account, and it should seek to develop understanding that there are a variety of relationships and family patterns in the modern world."* (p.34)

Girl's understanding of sanitary products and disposal in school

As part of lessons on puberty girls will be made aware of the procedures in place for accessing and the safe disposal of sanitary products. The school is aware that period poverty can be an issue for some pupils and will to the best of its ability ensure that girls have access to appropriate sanitary products during school time.

Health Education, including substance education, mental health education and safety education

Effective Health Education can make a significant contribution to the development of the personal skills needed by pupils as they grow up. It also enables young people to make responsible and informed decisions about their own and others' health and well-being.

Moral and Values Framework

The Health Education programme at our school reflects the school ethos and demonstrates and encourages the following values. For example:

- Respect for self
- Respect for others
- Responsibility for their own actions
- Responsibility for their family, friends, schools, and wider community

Mini-Medics

To assist with the friendship dynamics and promote positive mental health, the children in Year 5 to attend a 6-session course to raise awareness of first aid for mental health for children through sport.

These sessions will cover the following topics:

1. What is Mental Health
2. Emotions and Feelings
3. Healthy Habits and looking after your own health
4. Mental Health Conditions
5. Dealing with complex emotions and asking for help
6. Starting difficult conversations if you are worried about someone.

With a mixture of in class teaching supported by fun, engaging and physically active sessions to allow children to experience context and to compound learning. These are directly linked to the PSHE curriculum requirement, but more importantly they contribute to developing a healthy culture in school, whilst at the same time promoting wellness and wellbeing.

The Year 5 children will then become 'Mental Health Champions' who can help other children in our school to address potential friendship issues, improve resilience, give an understanding that physical education has a positive impact on mental health, and get the children to work effectively in teams.

Jigsaw's Health Education Content

The grid below shows specific Health Education content for each year group:

Age

4-5	
5-6	
6-7	
7-8	Self-identity and worth; positivity in challenges; responsible choices; giving and receiving compliments; difficult challenges and achieving Success; dreams and ambitions; new challenges; motivation and enthusiasm; recognising and trying to overcome obstacles; evaluating learning processes; managing feelings; simple budgeting; exercise; fitness challenges; food labelling and healthy

	swaps; attitudes towards drugs; keeping safe and why it's important online and off line; respect for myself and others healthy and safe choices; body changes at puberty.
8-9	What motivates behaviour; rewards and consequences; accepting self and others; understanding influences; hopes and dreams; overcoming disappointment; creating new, realistic dreams; achieving goals; resilience; positive attitudes; healthier friendships; group dynamics; smoking; alcohol; assertiveness; peer pressure; celebrating inner strength; jealousy; love and loss; memories of loved ones; body changes at puberty.
9-10	Being a citizen; rights and responsibilities; rewards and consequences; how behaviour affects groups; democracy, having a voice, participating; material wealth and happiness; future dreams; the importance of money; jobs and careers; dream job and how to get there; goals in different cultures; supporting others (charity); motivation; smoking, including vaping; alcohol; alcohol and antisocial behaviour; emergency aid; body image; relationships with food; healthy and safe choices; motivation and behaviour; changes in the body at puberty.
10-11	Choices, consequences and rewards; group dynamics; democracy, having a voice; emotions in success; making a difference in the world; motivation; recognising achievements; compliments; taking personal responsibility; how substances affect the body; exploitation, including 'county lines' and gang culture; emotional and mental health; managing stress; mental health; identifying mental health worries and sources of support; love and loss; managing feelings; power and control; assertiveness; technology safety; take responsibility with technology use; self-image; body image; impact of media; discernment; puberty; reflections about change; respect and consent.

How is Jigsaw PSHE organised in school?

Jigsaw brings together PSHE Education, emotional literacy, social skills, and spiritual development in a comprehensive scheme of learning. Teaching strategies are varied and are mindful of preferred learning styles and the need for differentiation. Jigsaw is designed as a whole school approach, with all year groups working on the same theme (Puzzle) at the same time. This enables each Puzzle to start with an introductory assembly, generating a whole school focus for adults and children alike.

There are six Puzzles in Jigsaw that are designed to progress in sequence from Autumn to June/July. Each Puzzle has six Pieces (lessons) which work towards an 'end product', for example, The School Learning Charter or The Garden of Dreams and Goals.

Each Piece (lesson) has two Learning Intentions: one is based on specific PSHE learning (covering the non-statutory national framework for PSHE Education and the statutory Relationships and Health Education guidance but enhanced to address children's needs today); and one is based on emotional literacy and social skills development to enhance children's emotional and mental health. The enhancements mean that Jigsaw, the mindful approach to PSHE, is relevant to children living in today's world as it helps them understand and be equipped to cope with issues like body image, cyber and homophobic bullying, and internet safety.

Every Piece (lesson) contributes to at least one of these aspects of children's development. This is mapped on each Piece and balanced across each year group.

- All class teachers are responsible for delivering PSHE lessons
- The PSHE subject leader is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the PSHE curriculum content and provision

Differentiation/SEN

Jigsaw is written as a universal core curriculum provision for all children. Inclusivity is part of its philosophy. Teachers will need, as always, to tailor each Piece (lesson) to meet the needs of the children in their classes. To support this differentiation, many Jigsaw Pieces (lessons) suggest creative learning activities that allow children to choose the media with which they work and give them scope to work to their full potential. If any changes are implemented nationally as a result of the Rochford Review Jigsaw will make the necessary amendments and offer this free update to all its schools. All pupils, including those with additional needs will be supported through differentiation and adult support to ensure meaningful access and understanding of the PSHE curriculum. The PSHE curriculum provision is inclusive of all pupils and consistent with the Equality Act

Safeguarding

Teachers need to be aware that sometimes disclosures may be made during Jigsaw lessons; in which case, safeguarding procedures must be followed immediately. Sometimes it is clear that certain children may need time to talk one-to-one after the lesson closes. It is important to allow the time and appropriate staffing for this to happen. If disclosures occur, the school's disclosure and/or confidentiality policy is followed.

Assessment

Teachers will be eager to ensure children are making progress with their learning throughout their Jigsaw experience. Therefore, each Puzzle (unit of work) has a built-in assessment task, usually in Lesson (Piece) 6. This task is the formal opportunity for teacher assessment, but also offers children the chance to assess their own learning and have a conversation with the teacher about their two opinions.

Each Puzzle (unit of work) has a set of three level descriptors for each year group:

Below

Expected

Exceeding

Recording and tracking progress

After each Puzzle is completed, the teacher, using a best-fit approach, decides whether the child is below, expected or exceeding and highlights the appropriate descriptor box on Insight.

Reporting to Parents/Carers

Each Puzzle's assessment tasks, and attainment assist the teacher in reporting meaningful learning progress to parents/carers. The descriptors will be used as a starting point when considering what to write on children's reports.

Monitoring and evaluation

The PSHE Lead will monitor delivery of the programme through observation and discussion with teaching staff to ensure consistent and coherent curriculum provision.

Evaluation of the programme's effectiveness will be conducted on the basis of:

- Pupil and teacher evaluation of the content and learning processes
- Staff meetings to review and share experiences

External contributors

External contributors from the community, e.g. health promotion specialists, school nurses, social workers, and community police and fire officers, make a valuable contribution to the Jigsaw PSHE programme. Their input should be carefully planned and monitored, so as to fit into and complement the programme. Members of the clergy or church groups may be called upon too.

The Learning Environment

Establishing a safe, open, and positive learning environment based on trusting relationships between all members of the class, adults, and children alike, is vital. To enable this, it is important that

‘ground rules’ are agreed and owned at the beginning of the year and are reinforced in every Piece (lesson) – by using The Jigsaw Charter. It needs to include the aspects below:

The Jigsaw Charter

- We take turns to speak
- We use kind and positive words
- We listen to each other
- We have the right to pass
- We only use names when giving compliments or when being positive
- We respect each other’s privacy (confidentiality)

Teaching Sensitive and Controversial Issues

Sensitive and controversial issues are certain to arise in learning from real-life experience. Teachers will be prepared to handle personal issues arising from the work, to deal sensitively with, and to follow up appropriately, disclosures made in a group or individual setting. Issues that we address that are likely to be sensitive and controversial because they have a political, social, or personal impact or deal with values and beliefs include: family lifestyles and values, physical and medical issues, financial issues, bullying and bereavement.

Teachers will take all reasonable, practical steps to ensure that, where political or controversial issues are brought to pupils’ attention, they are offered a balanced presentation of opposing views. Teachers will adopt strategies that seek to avoid bias on their part and will teach pupils how to recognise bias and evaluate evidence. Teachers will seek to establish a classroom climate in which all pupils are free from any fear of expressing reasonable points of view that contradict those held either by their class teachers or their peers.

Answering Difficult Questions and Sensitive Issues

Staff members are aware that views around RSHE-related issues are varied. However, while personal views are respected, all RSHE issues are taught without bias using Jigsaw. Topics are presented using a variety of views and beliefs so that pupils are able to form their own, informed opinions but also respect that others have the right to a different opinion.

Both formal and informal RSHE arising from pupils’ questions are answered according to the age and maturity of the pupil(s) concerned. Questions do not have to be answered directly and can be addressed individually later. The school believes that individual teachers must use their skill and discretion in this area and refer to the Child Protection Coordinator if they are concerned.

Our school believes that RSHE should meet the needs of all pupils, answer appropriate questions, and offer support. In Jigsaw Pieces (lessons) that cover RSE provision, this should be regardless of their developing sexuality and be able to deal honestly and sensitively with sexual orientation and gender diversity, answer appropriate questions and offer support. LGBT+ bullying is dealt with strongly yet sensitively. The school liaises with parents/carers on this issue to reassure them of the content and context.

Involving parents and carers

The school believes that it is important to have the support of parents, carers, and the wider community for the Jigsaw PSHE programme. Parents and carers are/will be given the opportunity to find out about and discuss the Jigsaw PSHE programme through:

- * Parent/carer Jigsaw awareness session
- * Parents’/carers’ evenings
- * Information leaflets/displays

Training and support for staff

All staff benefit from Jigsaw PSHE training in order to enhance their PSHE delivery skills. Opportunities are provided for staff to identify individual training needs on a yearly basis and relevant support is provided.

In addition to this, support for teaching and understanding PSHE issues is incorporated in our staff INSET programme, drawing on staff expertise and/or a range of external agencies.

Dissemination

This policy is available on our school website where it can be accessed by the community. Training is regularly delivered to staff on the policy content. Copies are available from the school office on request from parents/carers.

Confidentiality and Child Protection/Safeguarding Issues

As a general rule, a child's confidentiality is maintained by the teacher or member of staff concerned. If this person believes that the child is at risk or in danger, she/he talks to the named child protection co-ordinator who acts as laid down in the Child Protection Policy. All staff members are familiar with the policy and know the identity of the member of staff with responsibility for Child Protection issues. The child concerned will be informed that confidentiality is being breached and reasons why. The child will be supported by the teacher throughout the process.