



PSHE AND CITIZENSHIP POLICY

UPDATED NOVEMBER 2017

'A Healthy School promotes the health and well-being of its pupils and staff through a well planned, taught curriculum in a physical and emotional environment that promotes learning and healthy lifestyle choices.'

(Department of Health)

At Birkwood Primary School, the happiness and well being of our children is paramount and we hope to instil in them a life-long love of learning and respect for both themselves and others.

(School Vision Statement)

RATIONALE

At Birkwood Primary School, we believe that 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 organised and governed. We ensure that they experience the process of democracy in school through the School Council. We teach them about rights and responsibilities. They learn to appreciate what it means to be a positive member of a diverse multicultural society.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

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

- know and understand what constitutes a healthy lifestyle;
- be aware of safety issues including e-safety;
- understand what makes for good relationships with others;
- have respect for others regardless of race, beliefs, gender, physical and mental disability;
- be independent and responsible members of the school community;
- be positive and active members of a democratic society;
- develop self-confidence and self-esteem, and make informed choices regarding personal and social issues;
- develop good relationships with other members of the school and the wider community.

EXPECTATIONS

By the time children leave our school we expect them to be responsible for their own choices and actions to support them becoming positive and active members of society.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

At Birkwood Primary School, we use a wide range of teaching and learning styles. We place an emphasis on active learning by including the children in discussions, investigations and problem-solving activities particularly through the 'Ask It' strand of Open Futures. We encourage the children to take part in a range of practical activities that promote active citizenship, e.g. charity fundraising, the planning of special school events and activities 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 of behaviour. We offer children the opportunity to hear visiting speakers, such as health workers, police and Father David who is a Governor and Parish Priest at our local church St John the Baptist, whom we invite into the school to talk about their role in creating a positive and supportive local community. Visits to the church are also

organised to help children understand and respect the community and the Christian faith. Father David is proactive in developing the children's spiritual knowledge and understanding.

CURRICULUM PLANNING

Under the National Curriculum 2014, there is no formal requirement to teach PSHE. However, we believe that PSHE is essential in supporting children to make the right choices both in childhood and as they grow into adults and therefore we include it as part of our teaching.

We teach PSHE and citizenship in a variety of ways. In some instances, e.g. drugs education (See Drugs Policy) and Sex and Relationships Education (See SRE policy) we teach as a discrete subject in KS2.

PSHE and citizenship is also delivered through different areas of the curriculum, e.g. when teaching about healthy lifestyles in Science.

Ask-it sessions form a valuable part of PSHE as they enable children to discuss a range of thought provoking topics. The RE scheme of work 'Discovery RE' promotes discussions and is closely linked to philosophy for children and open futures.

We also develop PSHE and citizenship through activities and whole-school events, e.g. the School Council representatives from each class meet regularly to discuss school matters with the Headteacher. These children have the opportunity to visit the Houses of Parliament to learn about the how Parliament is run. We offer a residential visit to Year 6 children, where there is a particular focus on developing pupils' self-esteem and co-operative skills.

We plan the PSHE activities so that they build upon the prior learning of the children. While there are opportunities for children of all abilities to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding in each activity area, there is planned progression, so that the children are increasingly informed as they move up through the school.

Each year school hold a 'creative arts week' which focuses on a particular country. We learn about the culture and beliefs of that country and use workshops for 'art' 'dance' 'music' and 'traditions' which allow the children to develop their respect for that culture.

SEAL IN THE CURRICULUM

At Birkwood Primary School we also deliver SEAL to support and enhance the learning and progression of our children through whole school SEAL assemblies and follow up class activities which follow 7 main themes; New Beginnings, Say No to Bullying, Relationships, Good to be me, Getting on and Falling Out, Going for Goals and Changes.

FOUNDATION STAGE

We teach PSHE and citizenship across EYFS as an integral part of the new EYFS curriculum. Our teaching in PSHE and citizenship matches the aims of developing a child's personal, emotional and social development. Ask-it sessions are also run in the Foundation Stage.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

We teach PSHE and citizenship to all children, whatever their ability. PSHE and citizenship forms part of the school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education to all children. Through our PSHE and citizenship teaching we provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make progress. We do this by setting suitable learning challenges and responding to each child's different needs.

ASSESSMENT AND RECORDING

Teachers assess the children's work in PSHE and citizenship by making informal judgements as they observe them during lessons. At the end of a year, teachers record progress for each child, as part of the child's annual report to parents. The teacher passes this information on to the next teacher during transition meetings at the end of each year. We keep records of the contribution to the life of the school and community in photograph and video form and display these through the school website and Twitter page.

Our Celebration Assembly celebrates personal achievements and postcards home celebrate personal achievements with regards to developing positive attitudes to learning. Children are also sent to a member of the Senior Leadership Team to share outstanding pieces of work and to receive a special award sticker.

RESOURCES

We keep resources for Ask-it, PSHE and citizenship in a central store and use a range of appropriate websites.

INCLUSION - EVERY CHILD MATTERS

All children are given every opportunity to achieve their best. We achieve this by planning curriculum delivery that will meet the needs of all children, whatever their gender, special educational needs, ability, disability, social, or cultural background, ethnicity or linguistic background.

We meet the needs of all children by:

- Providing resources that reflect diversity and are free from discrimination or stereotyping;
- Using a range teaching strategies that are based on their needs;

Ensuring access to every activity where it is safe and reasonable to do so.

Note: This PSHE and Citizenship policy should be read in conjunction with the other school policies.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

The Governing Body reviews this policy every two years. The Governors may, however, review the policy earlier than this, if the government introduces new regulations, or if the governing body receives recommendations on how the policy might be improved.

This policy will be reviewed in November 2019.

Signed _____ Headteacher Date _____

Signed _____ Chair of Governors Date _____