

# PSHE and Citizenship Education Policy



<b>Date agreed by Governors</b>	<b>May 2016</b>
<b>Date of review</b>	<b>May 2018</b>
<b>Responsible officer</b>	<b>Derryth Hope</b>

## **Berwick Middle School PSHE Policy and Citizenship Education Policy**

### **Context.**

All maintained secondary schools in England have a statutory requirement to teach Citizenship and the advice from the Government is that

***'All schools should make provision for personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE), drawing on good practice'.***

This policy has been initially produced by the Headteacher but in consultation with all staff and a representative group of parents. Where appropriate, consultation with external agencies (School Health team, Healthy Schools advisors, Local Authority support etc) has been sought.

All parents will be able to access the policy through the school website or by contacting the Office for a paper copy. Should translated copies be required, the school will make every effort to make this possible.

The policy will be reviewed every two years.

### **Aims.**

Berwick Middle school attaches great importance to PSHE and Citizenship and its place within the wider school curriculum. We focus on guidance provided by Ofsted and the PSHE Association when planning the most appropriate method of learning for our students. As a result we have chosen to adopt the aims outlined by the PSHE Association for our own use.

The overarching aim for PSHE and Citizenship education is to provide pupils with:

- accurate and relevant knowledge
- opportunities to turn that knowledge into personal understanding
- opportunities to explore, clarify and if necessary challenge, their own and others' values, attitudes, beliefs, rights and responsibilities
- the skills and strategies they need in order to live healthy, safe, fulfilling, responsible and balanced lives.

### **Rationale.**

At Berwick Middle School, we believe that PSHE and Citizenship is essential because it provides our students with the self-awareness, positive self-esteem and confident to:

- Stay as healthy as possible
- Keep themselves and others safe
- Have worthwhile and fulfilling relationships
- Respect the differences between people
- Develop independence and responsibility

- Play an active role as a member of society
- Make the most of their own and others' abilities

### **What are we Required to Teach?**

At Berwick Middle School, children access 1 lesson of PSHE per week. However, we feel that many aspects of Citizenship and PSHE are accessed through other areas of the taught curriculum as well as inherently through the school ethos and values, through assemblies and through the allocated daily tutor time. Successful PSHE and Citizenship teaching and learning is evidenced through the skills, knowledge and behaviour of all members of the school.

Although, there is no guidance from DFE on what should be taught in PSHE, we have chosen to accept guidance from the Programmes of Study developed by the PSHE Association and to refer to their Ten Principles of good PSHE education. (Attached)

### **What Values do we Promote?**

At Berwick Middle School, we value positive attitudes to self, others and the world around us. We strive to equip all children with the knowledge, understanding, skills and strategies required to live healthy, safe, productive, capable, responsible and balanced lives

### **Working with Parents.**

We are committed to working with parents and carers and offer support through Parents Information Evenings (a variety of themes are addressed in these), providing materials through our website and Parentmail and by being available to discuss any issues related to PSHE and Citizenship.

### **A Balanced Curriculum.**

While promoting the values above, we will ensure that pupils are offered a balanced programme by ensuring that teachers do not deliberately set up polarising debates in class, but do offer a range of views in a sensitive manner. The school will ensure that children always have access to the learning they need to stay safe, healthy and understand their rights as individuals. This will include clear, impartial scientific information as well as covering the law and a variety of opinions in relation to relevant issues.

### **The Taught Programme.**

The programme is led by the Assistant Head Teacher (Curriculum) and is taught and supported by all members of teaching staff and, where appropriate external support is sought.

Teachers are encouraged to personalise the methods they use to teach PSHE whilst at the same time ensuring that these complement and reflect the overall aims and philosophy of the school.

PSHE and Citizenship are developed in the following ways;

- In class modules. This includes work in English, History, RE, Food Technology (this list is not exhaustive, but provides examples)
- Tutor time where topics discussed could include bullying, relationships, stress, anger, making choices or moral dilemmas
- Through the allocated lesson of PSHE every week and a regular programme of planned assemblies
- Through optional activities such as School Council, Eco Group, Prefects, Peer Mentors and Sports/Play Leaders etc
- Residential and learning beyond the classroom
- Through Stop the Clock time such as 'Careers Week', Jus-Rol Day etc
- Through visiting speakers from the wider community eg Blue Light Services, Community Safety workers, Charities etc

In planning the curriculum, teachers at Berwick Middle School provide:

- A clear, consistent framework of values
- A classroom climate that encourages a high level of interest
- Opportunities for personal growth beyond the classroom

All staff promote positive approaches to behaviour and our Behaviour policy reflects this. It sets clear guidelines for staff, parents and students.

We provide opportunities for personal, social, health and economic development through:

- Individual, peer group, discussion, role play and other collaborative methods
- Involvement in a range of problem solving activities
- Preparation and presentation of tasks for different audiences
- Positive self and peer assessment
- Positive marking with oral and/or written feedback
- Active participation in the community.

Through our general routines, in and around the classroom and in the way in which individuals relate to each other, students are helped to form their own attitudes and values. By building positive relationships between staff and students, all members of the school are valued as individuals.

Students are encouraged to keep a portfolio of evidence throughout their time at Berwick Middle which recognises every student's talents and achievements.

### **Complementary Policies.**

This policy should be considered in light of the school's policies on; Safeguarding and Child Protection, Equalities, E-Safety, Bullying, Child Protection, Radicalisation, Healthy Schools, Behaviour and SRE.