



6-2 PSHE and Citizenship

Policy

Guildford High School is a warm and welcoming community. We believe in the entitlement of young people to knowledge, facts and information about issues that affect their lives and wellbeing. PSHE is a key part of a well-rounded education which prepares pupils for their lives both in and after GHS. As a school it is our duty to promote wellbeing and in line with our vision and aims our PSHE programme aims to ensure pupils are happy. Girls therefore follow a structured PSHE programme which progresses as they move through the school.

PSHE is a key way in which pupils can develop their self-knowledge and can learn to be positive about their gifts and abilities and develop their self-esteem and self-confidence. This is addressed in age appropriate ways as the girls move through the school. The PSHE programme aims to provide a structured programme which complements the curriculum and the schools ethos by focusing on topics which will help pupils become responsible citizens, take steps to avoid and resist racism and also have the confidence to take risks and cope with adversity.

The PSHE programme in addition to assemblies, curriculum lessons, the enrichment programme such as 'flash debating', Religious Education Days and Sixth Form General Studies aims to enable pupils:

- to learn about the country they live in and gain a broad general knowledge of public institutions and services in England
- to have a healthy respect for the law, to distinguish from right and wrong and respect civil and criminal law
- to be tolerant individuals who respect and appreciate their own and other cultures and appreciate cultural diversity in a way that promotes tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions, and to avoid and resist racism
- to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and show initiative
- to challenge wrong doing
- to become involved in their community and to be effective, confident and positive contributors to the local community and wider society
- to respect the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

The scope of PSHE at Guildford High School is wide ranging and will always respond to topics and events. The aim is to tailor it to the needs of the pupils, provide flexibility to ensure topical issues are raised and discussed and to encourage pupils to question and think about the lives they live. PSHE is one key way in which the principles of spiritual, moral, social and cultural development the pupils is addressed in line with Guildford High School's heritage of the principles of respect, service and compassion.

Parents are informed of the PSHE and Citizenship programme at Information Evenings and details are published in the annual year-specific Information Booklets. Parents are also invited to regular Pastoral Evenings with outside speakers to discuss important pastoral issues such as e-safety, stress and examinations, sex and drugs education.

This policy applies to all sections of the school, including the EYFS setting. Guildford High School seeks to implement this policy through adherence to the procedures set out in the rest of this document. Guildford High School is fully committed to ensuring that the application of this policy is non-discriminatory in line with the UK Equality Act (2010). Further details are available in the school's Equal Opportunity Policy document.

This document is available to all interested parties, including parents and parents of prospective pupils, on the school's website and on request from the School Office. It should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Assemblies Policy
- Charities Policy
- Careers Guidance Policy
- Sex and Relationship Policy
- Drug Policy
- Care and Consideration: Anti Bullying Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Behaviour and Discipline Policy
- PSHE Schemes of Work
- Pastoral Care Policy

This document is reviewed annually by the Deputy Head (Pastoral), or as events or legislation change requires. The next scheduled date for review is October 2017. In the Junior School (and EYFS setting), the Deputy Head of Junior School reviews the policy.

The Programme Content

Topics covered in PSHE include healthy eating, personal safety, relationships and sex education, self-esteem, careers education, study skills, money management, environmental awareness, human rights issues and the political and legal system. More detailed information is available in the PSHE Schemes of Work.

PSHE is taught in Form Period and Tutor groups on a Wednesday morning period 1 in the Senior School and in the Junior School there is a dedicated PSHE and Citizenship period delivered each week by the Form Teacher. The Junior School Deputy Head, the Junior School PSHE and Citizenship Co-ordinator and the Senior School Assistant Heads of Year (AHOY) are responsible for the content of the programmes, providing schemes of work and ensuring the quality of its delivery by Tutors and Form Teachers. The Junior School PSHE Co-ordinator and the AHOYs ensure that staff are prepared and happy with the material that is being taught and they liaise with key pastoral staff. There are occasions when specialist teaching takes place to cover certain topics. Visiting speakers provide sessions which are integrated into the programme and which are, wherever possible, followed up in the classrooms. In the Junior School PSHE and Citizenship themes are linked to assembly themes and communicated to parents regularly via Junior News by the Co-ordinator.

Pupil's views and opinions are listened to and in lessons they should be encouraged to engage in discussion and debate within a safe and impartial environment. Pupils have the opportunity take the initiative and discuss the content of PSHE and the school policies with the AHOY or the Deputy Head in pupil voice sessions. PSHE Representatives in Year 10 and 11 also discuss the programme.

Pupils and teachers of PSHE should ensure that ground rules and boundaries are established to ensure sensitive issues are handled with mutual respect of pupils and teacher, recognising that both have a right to privacy. It is recognised that staff are not experts in the areas covered in PSHE, rather facilitators of pupils learning. Any concerns that staff have in teaching PSHE should be directed to the AHOY or the Deputy Head Pastoral or Junior School Deputy Head, who aim to ensure that all staff are confident with the material they teach. This also applies to any questions received from pupils which a member of staff is not happy to answer; the pupil may then be referred to the AHOY, HoY or the Deputy Head Pastoral or the Deputy Head of Junior School.

This policy is available to relevant parties in accordance with the school's Provision of Information Policy
KJL and MDG/Oct 2016

Tutors and staff delivering PSHE should ensure that their PSHE lessons are prepared and delivered to be enjoyable, relevant, and appropriate for the year group and in a safe and secure learning environment. Teachers of PSHE should ensure that they are familiar with the school's Safeguarding Policy, Sex and Relationship Policy and Drug Policy. In line with the Prevent strategy, visiting speakers will be recorded on the Visiting Speaker database.

The academic curriculum reinforces aspects covered in the PSHE programme; the school values and ethos, along with assemblies and extra-curricular activities provide moral and spiritual development.

GHS acknowledges the importance of staff training in the implementation and delivery of PSHE and is committed to providing continued professional development opportunities to staff through INSET.