

What is PSHECC and why it matters?

PSHECC education gives pupils the knowledge, skills, and attributes they need to keep themselves healthy and safe and to prepare them for life and work in modern Britain.

Personal, Social, Health, Economic and Citizenship Curriculum (PSHECC) is a school subject through which pupils develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they need to manage their lives, now and in the future.

These skills and attributes help pupils to stay healthy, safe and prepare them for life and work in modern Britain. When taught well, PSHECC education helps pupils to achieve their academic potential, and leave school equipped with skills they will need throughout later life.

The majority of the PSHECC education curriculum is now statutory (and therefore compulsory) from September 2020 – though due to the Covid-19 pandemic, schools have a little more leeway to implement by early next year. We are pleased to let you know that we have started our mock lessons during last academic year and after successful outcomes, the new PSHE curriculum has been launched at Fort Royal this September.

WHY IS PSHECC EDUCATION IMPORTANT TO PUPILS?

There are more opportunities than ever before for young people with special educational needs and disabilities to lead creative and fulfilling lives. Learning experiences that support personal and social development will greatly support their capability to make the most of these opportunities. PSHE education is therefore vital, as it is the school curriculum subject dedicated to preparing pupils for life and the fulfilment of their potential.

PSHECC education helps pupils to develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they need to thrive as individuals, family members and members of society. From making responsible first decisions to succeeding in their first job, PSHECC education helps pupils to manage many of the most critical opportunities, challenges and responsibilities they will face growing up.

In 2015, the UK Youth Parliament made 'A Curriculum which prepares us for Life' a top priority, based on a consultation of almost a million young people. This was the third year in a row that PSHE education has been voted a priority by young people. PSHECC education is supported by leading youth bodies such as Girlguiding and the British Youth Council.

Fort Royal School pupils agree that PSHECC education is a vital part of their preparation for life, therefore they took part in curriculum map preparation by indicating what they would like to find out about and learn before to transition to high school.

WHY IS PSHECC EDUCATION IMPORTANT TO SCHOOLS?

PSHE subject makes a crucial contribution to schools' duties. The Education Act 2002 requires all schools to teach a curriculum that is "broadly based, balanced and meets the needs of pupils". Schools

must "promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society, and prepare pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life" while having a duty to keep pupils safe.

Our Curriculum map outlines in detail how PSHE education helps pupils fulfil their learning at Fort Royal. A growing body of research shows that pupils who are emotionally healthy do better at school. PSHE education helps children and young people to achieve their potential by supporting their wellbeing and tackling issues that can affect their ability to learn, such as anxiety and unhealthy relationships. PSHE education also helps pupils to develop skills and aptitudes - like teamwork, communication, and resilience - that are crucial to navigating the challenges and opportunities of the modern world, and are increasingly valued by employers.

WHY IS PSHECC EDUCATION IMPORTANT TO PARENTS?

An overwhelming majority of parents support the view that schools should prepare children for life and work, not just for exams. 90% of parents say that all schools should teach PSHE education according to 2015 YouGov polling commissioned by the PSHE Association and the subject is supported by leading parent bodies including Mumsnet, PTA UK and the National Governors Association.

At Fort Royal, we know that parents welcome a partnership between home and school which supports our children's personal and social development, and help deal with issues of increasing complexity.

While there is consensus among parents, governors and parent-teacher associations about the need for PSHE education, it is understandable that parents want to ensure that a school's programme is appropriate for their children. It was therefore important for us that parents of our pupils were involved when a school's PSHE curriculum was being developed. Thank you to everyone who made important comments about the drafted PSHE curriculum map.

WHY IS PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPORTANT TO OUR PUPILS?

Personal wellbeing helps young people embrace change, feel positive about who they are and enjoy healthy, safe, responsible and fulfilled lives. Through active learning (Play-Learn-Laugh-Succeed) opportunities pupils recognise and manage risk, take increasing responsibility for themselves, their choices and behaviours and make positive contributions to their families, schools and communities. As pupils learn to recognise, develop and communicate their qualities, skills and attitudes, they build knowledge, confidence and self-esteem and make the most of their abilities. As they explore similarities and differences between people and discuss social and moral dilemmas when appropriate, they learn to deal with challenges (resilience) and accommodate diversity in all its forms. The world is full of complex and sometimes conflicting values. Personal wellbeing helps pupils explore this complexity and reflect on and clarify their own values and attitudes. Thank you to our PSHECC programme based on building blocks of experience, knowledge and skills, they identify and articulate feelings and emotions, learn to manage new or difficult situations positively and form and maintain

effective relationships with a wide range of people (see PSHECC map). Personal wellbeing makes a major contribution to the promotion of personal development.

The PSHECC curriculum at Fort Royal provides opportunities for pupils to:

- make real choices and decisions based on accurate information obtained through their own research using a range of sources, including the internet, other media sources and visits/visitors to and from the wider community (see e-Twinning project evidence/Projects with Dancefest/School council)
- meet and work with people from the wider community both in school and through external visits (see PSHECC map for cycle A and B)
- use case studies, simulations, scenarios and drama to explore personal and social issues and have time to reflect on them in relation to their own lives and behaviour (part of PSHECC lesson within each term/Play therapy)
- take part in individual and group discussion to consider personal, social and moral dilemmas and the choices and decisions relating to them (Fort Royal Hullabaloo projects linking to PSHECC curriculum/Play therapy)
- work as members of groups and teams, taking on different roles and responsibilities (School council, daily class jobs)