

PERSONAL SOCIAL & HEALTH EDUCATION AND CITIZENSHIP POLICY

Rationale

At The Elms we believe that PSHE and Citizenship help to give pupils the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to lead confident, healthy, independent lives and to become informed, active and responsible citizens. We recognise that it can play a central part in the life of our school and should be at the heart of whole school development. 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 the school and local community. An important strand of PSHE is helping children to explore what they know and feel, to clarify their sense of uniqueness, and to develop their self-esteem. Children who have a strong sense of their own worth are more able to make sound decisions affecting their health and well-being, in that they act with a sense of responsibility towards themselves.

PSHE also involves learning about our relationships with other people and how we can develop skills, attitudes and values to ensure that we live together in a happy and harmonious way.

... the key to well-being in childhood and later life:

- Be healthy
- Stay safe
- Enjoy and achieve
- Make a positive contribution
- Achieve economic well-being

(Every Child Matters, September 2003)

National Curriculum Aims

The PSHE and Citizenship framework in the National Curriculum comprises four interrelated strands which support children's personal and social development. The strands are:

- developing confidence and responsibility and making the most of their abilities;
- preparing to play an active role as citizens;
- developing a healthy, safer lifestyle;
- developing good relationships and respecting the differences between people.

Aims

We aim that through the PSHE curriculum our pupils will:

- Develop self confidence and self responsibility
- Develop a safe and healthy lifestyle
- Develop the ability to form good relationships
- Identify and respect the similarities and differences between individuals
- Have opportunities to consider issues which may affect their own lives and the lives of others
- Prepare to play an active role as citizens

We intend to achieve these aims through:

- A school ethos that values the place and contribution of all individuals to the school community and promotes self respect and respect for others
- Planned PSHE lessons; delivered through discussion, group work, role play and co-operative games
- Circle Time activities

- Teaching PSHE and Citizenship through other subject areas
- Special activities and events
- Giving pupils opportunities to work in a variety of group settings
- Assemblies
- Displays
- School Council
- School and classroom rules
- Responsibilities/monitors
- Target setting/goals
- Charity events
- Ensuring the food and drink available across the school day reinforces the healthy lifestyle message
- Providing high quality Physical Education and School Sport; hence promoting Physical Activity as part of a lifelong healthy lifestyle;

Due to the nature of PSHE, there is also a great deal of incidental teaching and learning that takes place throughout the school day. This element is fostered and encouraged by all members of staff.

Provision

- The direct teaching of PSHE will follow a thematic approach using the LCP files: I am, I know, I can and the Folens scheme.
- Circle Time will encourage the participation of individuals as part of a large group, respect for everyone's views, talking and listening for all, inclusion of all adults and pupils and the sharing of ideas with the whole group.
- Opportunities will be given to use either of the above to respond to issues which may arise within the class, school, locality or world.
- All subjects can contribute to the PSHE curriculum but Science, RE and PE have a particular role to play.
- Special events such as field work, adventure challenge and the junior residential experiences will give pupils the opportunity to work together in a different context.
- Visitors can share knowledge and experience with pupils so that they can extend their perspective on issues.
- Time is available to enable pupils to work through personal problems.
- During assemblies children are given time and opportunity to reflect upon a variety of issues contained within the PSHE and citizenship framework.

Ethos

The ethos at The Elms plays a critical role in the successful implementation of PSHE and citizenship. Our ethos supports citizenship and has:

- Clear whole-school values that have been discussed by all members of the school community.
- Good relationships within the school and between the school and wider community.
- A curriculum that requires children to participate in and contribute to their communities. This is supported by real opportunities for them to make decisions and take responsibilities that contribute to the running of the school and the management of their own learning.

Assessment, Reporting and Recording

There will be ongoing informal assessment.

Parents will receive a statement of their child's progress in their personal and social development in their annual report.

All teachers, teaching assistants, midday staff and administrative staff are responsible for informing the teachers of individual pupils about notable points of personal and social development. We believe that every member of staff (teaching and non-teaching) is responsible for the personal and social development of our pupils. Every class has a weekly time-tabled PSHE lesson.

Organisation and Management

There is a coordinator with overall responsibility for PSHE who will:

- Monitor planning
- Monitor teaching and learning e.g. observation and children's recorded work
- keep up-to-date with new developments and requirements in PSHE e.g. by attending courses
- Order, organise and maintain appropriate resources
- Ensure that resource materials are up-to-date and readily accessible
- Liaise with outside agencies and other appropriate health professionals e.g. school nurse
- Keep members of staff up-to-date with new developments and requirements through meetings and training
- Provide support and advice to staff where needed

Inclusion

Activities will be planned and differentiated to enable all pupils to participate and learn from the PSHE curriculum.

Equal opportunities

The staff will ensure that all children will have an equal opportunity to develop their potential within PSHE and Citizenship, regardless of gender, ability, cultural or religious background in line with the school's policy on equal opportunities.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The coordinator will monitor coverage and balance of PSHE activities and evaluate the impact of school provision in consultation with teachers.

Charlotte Regan 2.4.2009