

Personal, Social, Health, Cultural & Economic Education Policy



Bethany
since 1866

Rated 'EXCELLENT' by ISI in 2023

Personal, Social, Health, Cultural and Economic Education Policy

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1. Current PSHCE Provision:

The PSHCE programme at Bethany is delivered through weekly classes in year groups, by teachers who use their specialist knowledge to engage classes in a range of classroom activities covering a wide range of topics. PSHCE is supported by the tutor program and Assemblies. PSHCE is delivered through 'Project Horizon' in the Sixth Form. As it is a non-examined subject, the use of a variety of teaching styles and media is encouraged. The program of study is based on three core themes: 1. Health and Wellbeing; 2. Relationships and Communication and 3. Living in the Wider World. The specific objectives within the core themes are set for each year group by the subject co-ordinator ensuring continuity and progression. Teachers adapt their planning to reflect students' needs, local and national priorities. The PSHCE curriculum is in line with the Programme of Study in the National Curriculum and informed by advice from the PSHE Association (quoted excerpts below). Tutor groups are mixed sex while PSHCE is delivered in single sex classes as this has been found to enhance the participation in discussions around some topics. In contrast, when inviting in outside speakers on topics such as misogyny or substance misuse, this is delivered to the whole year group together.

Some careers advice is also given through the PSHCE and this content is guided by the Head of Next Steps utilizing Unifrog. As the school has a wide range of abilities, the programme aims to offer a wide range of opportunities from school leaving age including apprenticeships, gap years, further education and other opportunities. This advice is delivered impartially, allowing pupils to make informed choices and encourages them to fulfil their potential as they move from Year 7 onwards.

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is delivered mainly by the Senior Nurse within the PSHCE program with some relationship topics covered by other staff, such as controlling and coercive behaviour in relationships. All groups will have one allocated block from the Senior Nurse who will have a member of teaching staff supporting in these sessions. The programme is informed by the Department for Education's Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education July 2020 document and the subsequent update in July 2025. Themes are also visited in a range of subjects such as Science / Biology and Religious Studies. Themes relating to Everyone's Invited and the Child on Child Abuse, Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence Policy are also delivered including the importance of consent. More can be found in the RSE Policy.

The PSHCE provision is co-ordinated with the tutor programme, whole school assemblies, Year assemblies and Chapels. Whole school assemblies are led by the Headmaster or SMT each week; Year assemblies are held weekly led by Head of Year or Head of Sixth Form, tutors or tutor groups; Pastoral tutor time delivered weekly by tutors who have a program to follow that is planned out by the Head of Year and PSHCE co-ordinator taking into account what is covered in the PSCHE

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sessions and the Year group assemblies. The Head of Sixth Form generates the content delivered to Year 12 and 13.

	Health and wellbeing	Living in the wider world	Relationships	Health and wellbeing	Living in the wider world	Relationships
Year 7	Safety and wellbeing	Developing skills and aspirations plus Unifrog	Diversity and Britain today	Health and puberty	Financial decision making	Building Relationships
Year 8	Drugs and alcohol misuse and the pressures relating to drug use	Community and careers	Bullying and Discrimination	Emotional wellbeing	Digital literacy and online safety	Identity and relationships
Year 9	Peer influence, substance use and gangs	Risk and safety in society	Respectful relationships	Healthy lifestyle	Employability skills	Intimate relationships
Year 10	Mental health	Financial decision making	Healthy relationships	Exploring influence	Careers and preparation for work	Extremism and radicalisation
Year 11	Self esteem and stress management	Next steps and careers	Communication in relationships	Responsible health choices and safety	Sexual Health and Consent	Different families and parental responsibilities, changing relationships

1.1 Key Stage 3 –

“At Key Stage 3, pupils build on the skills, attitudes, values, knowledge and understanding they have acquired and developed during the primary phase. PSHCE education acknowledges and addresses the changes that learners are experiencing. Beginning with transition to secondary school, the challenges of adolescence and their increasing independence. It teaches the skills which will equip them for the opportunities and challenges of life. Pupils are encouraged to manage diverse relationships and the increasing influence of peers and the media. PSHCE education allows them to be more confident in addressing the challenges of effective learning and making a full and active contribution to society.”

KS 3 – once a week, rotating groups of approximately 10 – 20 students (depending on the year group). Students are encouraged to express their views using discussion and a range of activities according to the topic.

The PSHCE programme supports the promotion of the school’s Christian values and the fundamental British values that will help pupils understand the context of British society and ensure they are able to contribute positively to the community in and out of school. Elements of SMSC are covered in PSHCE Schemes of Work through the prominence of discussions on a range of topics and the exploration of social norms, sources of support, roles within society, cultures and beliefs. Discrete lessons related to British Values are also included. Issues such as the Black Lives Matter

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movement will be investigated to support the development of the multicultural environment of our School during tutor time.

Feedback is sought from pupils and learning is confirmed with a variety of types of assessment including mind maps, quizzes and responses to scenarios.

1.2 Key Stage 4

“At Key Stage 4, pupils extend and rehearse the skills, further explore attitudes and values, and deepen knowledge and understanding acquired during Key Stage 3. PSHCE education reflects the fact that learners are moving towards an independent role in adult life, taking on greater responsibility for themselves and others. By Key Stage 4 increasing numbers of pupils may be gaining direct experience of issues taught through PSHCE education.”

In Key Stage 4 the Christian and British values are developed further with more complex ideas being visited. A key focus is in the development of self-confidence, self-knowledge and self-esteem. More detailed information on respecting law and knowledge of institutions are covered in support of the information delivered through the tutor program and various assemblies.

KS 4 – Y10: once a week, rotating groups of approximately 10 - 18 students. Students are encouraged to express their views using discussion and a range of activities according to the strengths of the individual teacher.

KS 4 – Y11: once a week, rotating groups of approximately 10 - 18 students. Students are encouraged to express their views using discussion and according to the strengths of the individual teacher. After the rotation is complete, the remaining sessions are used for revision as they will be during their GCSE period. Feedback is sought from pupils and learning is confirmed with a variety of assessment methods including mind maps, quizzes and responses to scenarios.

Current groupings:

Year 7 and 8 taught in groups of approximately 10 - 20 on a six week rotation.

Year 9 taught in teaching groups of approximately 10 -18 in single sex groups on a 6 week rotation.

Year 10 in groups of approximately 14 – 20 in single sex groups on a 6 week rotation in single sex groups.

Year 11 in groups of approximately 14 to 20 in single sex groups on a 5 week rotation, after which exam preparation is the focus.

Sixth Form delivered in tutor groups.

Students in all year groups can choose to be in a group of a different sex if they identify as a different gender/non-binary.

All topics covered in dedicated PSHCE lessons are well-resourced. Teachers provide students with topics and sources of information. All units of work include

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signposting sources of support for the issues raised.

An important component of the program is discussion and evaluation of topics and themes in group settings. This can be accomplished in tutor lessons, and/or delivered through Year assemblies. Topics and themes may also carry through from other subject areas, for example biology.

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) sessions will be delivered to students within their year group in small gender groups by the Senior Nurse. RSE may be delivered on a 1:1 basis for certain students where a specific need is identified.

1.3 Current Resources:

The PSHCE department has a developing and growing bank of resources located in Microsoft Teams. These consist of leaflets, booklets, books, One Drive and on-line resources. In addition, resources for tutor time are held on One drive. Teachers of PSHCE are encouraged to develop their own range of resources, appropriate to their topics and themes and to share these so others can use or develop the themes. Tutors are also encouraged to expand upon their given resources.

1.4 PSHCE Review

In June each year students are surveyed to inform the planning of the PSHCE curriculum the following year. Staff who deliver PSHCE are also annually surveyed.

1.5 OUTSIDE SPEAKERS

The Deputy Heads liaise with key staff to invite outside speakers to discuss specialist topics like Drugs or Alcohol Abuse. In the Sixth Form, the Pengelly Society and Project Horizon often invites speakers who cover PSHCE-related themes.

1.6 KS 5 – coordinated by Head of Sixth Form.

PSHCE in the Sixth Form is primarily delivered through Project Horizon, the Sixth Form tutors via the tutor time/assemblies programme, timetabled RSE lessons and through the Pengelly Society. 'Tutor time/assemblies' targets a variety of skills and issues such as organisation, how to revise, driving safely, teenagers and the law, and interview technique. 'Project Horizon' covers how to write CVs and the application process for employment/university/apprenticeships. In the sixth form more depth and detail is covered with respect to public institutions (police, fire brigade, ambulance service, monarchy, church, parliament NHS, local government) and how they operate in support of the community. Coverage is also given on the democratic process and the importance within a democracy of the split of the

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government from the judiciary - 'British Values'. This programme is further developed for the Year 12 during Activities Week which is carried out in the final week of the Summer Term.

1.7 PSHCE in the Sixth Form

Usually, pupils meet to listen to **presentations** led by other students and/ or by staff. These presentations cover a wide range of topics which have included supporting charity, drink driving, responsibility, the celebrity culture, identity, fraud, drugs etc. In the Sixth Form students are also encouraged to discuss the topics raised in discussion groups and these are led by their peers and by staff, with a reflection of learning completed in their 'tutor time booklets'.

In tutor meetings Sixth Form Tutors cover the following topics with their tutees:

- Organisation, Time Management and Personal Development
- How to tackle entry into the Sixth Form
- How to improve your organisational skills
- How to improve your time management
- How to improve your concentration
- Planning ahead
- Developing your personal qualities
- Use of private study periods
- The appointment of school officials
- Getting the work / life balance right
- The Sixth Form Centre Rules / Code of Conduct
- Students hear talks on Child Protection/Diversity & Equality/Drugs/Alcohol/Consent/BLM/Consent
- Important dates for UCAS and Career Planning

Talks and discussions are also delivered through the cultural forum of **The Pengelly Society** where a variety of speakers are invited to speak after dinner about their life experiences and challenges. The aim is to broaden horizons.

Careers' advice and support is provided by staff and is supported with Unifrog which all pupils in the school have access to. The School invites outside speakers to deliver talks on such topics as accountancy, tele-communications, university life and taking a GAP year. A Careers' Fair is hosted and a range of businesses attend to give advice on career pathways to the Sixth Form. Sessions also include how to apply to university, how to write the personal statement and finance. Careers guidance is started in the 'Project Horizon' programme and is developed on as the pupils move through the school into Sixth Form.

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Members of The Sixth Form also have time-tabled sports sessions which retain a focus on healthy living, both physically and mentally.

In addition, the annual **Apprentice Challenge** allows all Lower Sixth students to take part in an intensive week long competition, based on the television programme. This sets challenges, encourages leadership, initiative and team-building skills.

The **Duke of Edinburgh Award** sees a number of Sixth Form taking part in the Silver and Gold Awards. The five day Residential Section of the Award sees students taking part volunteering activities. The Expedition section encourages students to take part in demanding treks in locations.

Sixth Formers can take part in the public speaking competition organised as part of **The Young Enterprise Scheme** in which the school is fully involved. Regular visits are made from outside guests who support the work of the companies as they prepare to compete both internally and externally in a range of categories in this national competition.

Further leadership and community awareness is also shown by the appointment of monitors and prefects, chapel and charity representatives who are there to help in the day-to-day running of the school. The School Prefects attend training on leadership from the SMT before they take up their appointments in the summer term of the Lower Sixth. All Sixth Form members are expected to show initiative and to be involved in the life of the school.

The Young Enterprise Scheme allows students to set up and run a 'real' business for an academic year. They choose a name, register, and sell shares, brainstorm products and hold elections to determine positions within the company. They trade in and sometimes out of school. At the end of the year pupils go through a liquidation process which involves paying Young Enterprise tax and VAT, plus hopefully rewarding shareholders with dividends.

In addition there are two Young Enterprise competitions. The first is specific to Kent and is a public speaking competition. One pupil from each company may enter an area heat, the winner going onto the County final. The other competition is for the whole company; pupils are required to submit a company report, construct a trade stand and give a presentation. This is a national competition, progression being area heat, county final, South East England final and Nationals.

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