

Personal Development (To include Early Years) Policy



RYDE SCHOOL
WITH UPPER CHINE

Reviewed by RH: August 2016

Next Review: August 2019

Personal Development (To include Early Years)

This policy covers the school's approach to both spiritual, moral, social and cultural education, along with the personal education covered with the school's Personal Development programme (PSHCEE in the Junior School) It therefore contains information on the school approach to topics such as drugs, sexual relationships, alcohol and pornography.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education

The aims of Ryde School:

- To provide a carefully structured and thorough education which enables day and boarding pupils to achieve their academic and personal potential and to develop skills appropriate to the world of work and life in the twenty-first century.
- To enable pupils to develop as citizens of integrity, who place service to others above themselves, who are both communicators and listeners, who have the confidence and self-esteem to lead others.
- To ensure a civilised, caring, healthy and happy community emphasising high moral standards, self-discipline, and emotional and spiritual development.
- To encourage pupils to participate in an extensive range of sporting, cultural and enriching activities.
- To develop an understanding of our responsibilities and our duty to serve the local, national and world communities.

Spiritual Development

It is our aim to enable pupils to:

- Be at ease with both themselves and their place in the community, so that they can grow in self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence.
- Encourage pupils to look out from themselves at the world which they inhabit with a sense of wonder and an appreciation of its complexity
- To learn about major world faiths and to understand the significance of belief in many peoples' lives
- Reflect on their own values and beliefs;
- Have an appreciation of the role that Christianity has played in shaping the values and beliefs in our own country
- Develop self-awareness and to recognise and control human feelings and emotions.

The school encourages spiritual development through:

- Attendance at church services along with school, year group and house assemblies, tutor or form meetings along with lessons in religious studies and personal development (PSHCEE in the junior school). Pupils are encouraged to develop and employ a set of values, principles and beliefs to guide their behaviour through life.
- Pupils being encouraged to express their thoughts and feelings in an imaginative way through, for example; art and design, drama, music and literature.
- Trips that help to promote a sense of wonder about the world.
- Its ethos in which differences are accommodated, individuals can grow and flourish; all are expected to respect others and be respected.

- Promoting teaching styles which value pupils' questions and thoughts, and allow them to reflect on the wider questions of life.

Moral Development

It is our aim to encourage pupils to:

- Accept responsibility for their own behaviour, to know the difference between right and wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law
- Appreciate that others may have different moral values, needs and feelings to their own.
- Think through the consequences of their actions.
- Be willing to express views on ethical issues and have opportunity in lessons to do so.

The school encourages moral development through:

- Promoting moral behaviour with a clear code which is consistently applied.
- Taking measures to prevent discrimination on the basis of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age or any other criteria.
- A system of rewards and sanctions.
- Moral issues are discussed in assemblies and lessons.
- Golden rules and golden time at Fiveways.

Social Awareness

It is our aim to fulfil the following aspirations:

- To promote and encourage pupils to adopt the school motto of 'ut prosim' so that pupils may be of service to their communities. We therefore look to enable pupils to become confident and positive contributors to their community.
- Pupils relate well to other people.
- Pupils work successfully as a member of a team or group, exchanging ideas and resolving conflicts by working towards a consensus.
- Pupils show respect for people, living things, property and the environment.
- Pupils take responsibility for their own development and that of others.
- Pupils appreciate the rights and responsibilities of individuals within the wider social setting.
- Pupils understand that society functions in structures such as the family, the school and the wider community.
- Pupils participate in activities that support the community

The School encourages social development by:

- Fostering a sense of community.
- Coaching scheme for the Lower 6th in the Senior School, playground pals (Junior School) and monitors.
- Encouraging pupils to work co-operatively, in class, in team activities and in adventurous training.
- Providing positive group experiences – examples of which include sporting fixtures, concerts, plays, musicals, dance, Global Rock, residential trips, Duke of Edinburgh's Award.
- Providing opportunities for pupils to exercise leadership and responsibility.
- Encouraging links with the world of work.
- Volunteering

Cultural Awareness

It is our aim to enable pupils to:

- Encourage pupils 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 school will ensure that, insofar as is reasonably practical, when political issues are discussed, pupils are presented with a balanced presentation of opposing views
- Understand their own, and others, values and beliefs.
- Understand the changing and evolutionary value of cultures.
- Be willing to be involved in cultural and artistic enterprises.

The School supports pupils' cultural development through:

- Work within curriculum areas – for example, languages, arts, humanities.
- Extra-curricular activities.
- Trips and expeditions.
- Displays, posters and exhibitions.
- In Fiveways the pupils explore celebrations around the world and marking the Saints Days of the UK countries.

Sex & Relationships Education

In both the Senior and Junior Schools the aim, through a combination of Personal Development (PSHCEE in the Junior School) presentations and the Biology/Science course is:

- to provide a balanced programme in an atmosphere of trust and respect
- to encourage moral responsibility and skills of self-awareness in both sexes
- to give pupils knowledge and understanding concerning physical, emotional and social aspects of relationships
- to place value and importance on family life as a social institution
- to ensure sex education is delivered through a variety of methods which could include projects, expert presentations and discussions.
- to raise awareness of HIV and STIs and their links with sexual activity.

In the **Junior School**, the Science Department curriculum covers:

- Aspects of human sexual behaviour
- Puberty
- Pregnancy

The **Senior School** Science Department covers the biological aspects of human sexual behaviour, the PD programme deals with:

- all aspects of human sexual behaviour
- contraception
- AIDS, HIV and other STI's
- informed choice; moral and ethical issues
- responsibility and respect in sexual matters, in the context of life long loving relationships
- lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender

Withdrawing Pupils from Sex and Relationships Education It is only from the PD component of sex and relationships education that parents may request a withdrawal of their son/daughter.

Parents will receive a letter informing them of any proposed sex and relationships education lectures and discussions. Parents do not have to give reasons for withdrawal but it may help to prevent any misunderstandings.

If such a request is made the school would wish to:

- discuss those concerns with parents
- reassure parents as to the professional level of such presentations
- point out that inaccurate information may be passed on by other pupils
- offer parents access to appropriate information for family discussion

N.B. If a pupil does not agree with the parents wish to withdraw from a Sex Education programme the pupil may challenge the withdrawal under Section 8 of the Children Act.

Pornography

The School sees pornography as a potentially corrupting and harmful influence on young people. It is an aim of the school to promote well-adjusted and balanced relationships between boys and girls within a co-educational environment, and pornography, in whatever form, is not conducive to this process. We believe pornography can threaten the safety of young people and can lead to, and encourage abusive behaviour. Pupils also need to understand the laws relating to sex, sexting and pornography. The PD programme also looks at gender attitudes, sexting, sexual stereotyping and personal relationships.

Feedback

The school will monitor and evaluate the sex and relationships education programme through:

1. Pupil feedback
2. Staff feedback at pastoral meetings
3. Parental feedback

In drafting this policy statement we had regard to the DfE's guidance on Sex and Relationships Education.

Drugs Education

Young people face growing pressures to use or experiment with controlled drugs, alcohol, tobacco and other substances. At Ryde School we look to to reduce these pressures, to educate children about the risks of involvement with drugs and maintain an environment that is as free as we can make it of controlled drugs and the paraphernalia, culture and temptation to use drugs and other harmful substances.

Through a variety of measures we are committed:

- To help develop in each of our pupils the moral courage to reject those parts of "youth culture" that may be harmful to their integrity, independence, opportunities and respect for the law.
- To maintain the integrity of the school community, to reflect the wishes of parents in this regard, and to provide support and confidential counselling - without disciplinary sanctions or adverse report - for those who might otherwise be tempted to take risks or experiment with drugs.
- To provide pupils with accurate information about drugs and other harmful substances; to make them aware of the consequences of drug and substance misuse, and to promote a healthy lifestyle through informed judgements.

In order to achieve these aims we provide all members of staff receive training about drugs and substances so that they can respond appropriately to pupils seeking individual advice and help and so that they are alert to the warning signs of drug misuse. The education of pupils about drugs and substances is delivered primarily through the School's *Personal Development Programme*. It also features in the science syllabus, tutor/form group work and in the extracurricular involvement of outside agencies.

Alcohol Education

We are concerned that our pupils receive proper advice and education about the consumption of alcohol through the school curriculum, the Personal Development Education programme, assemblies and the use of external agencies. In a world where alcohol is readily available and often consumed in excess, we wish to encourage our pupils to remain safe and healthy.

Personal Development

In the senior school Personal Development (PD) has one dedicated timetabled lesson per week throughout Years 7 to 11. In years 7 and 8 form tutors cover the topics to help with the delivery and enable the groups to discuss relevant issues. In year 9 and above the topics are delivered on a carousel and taught by teachers with training in, or a genuine interest in the subject. It covers a wide range of topics. There is a flexible scheme of work

Year 7

- Getting to know each other and ourselves
- Solving problems in a new school (Senior School)
- Keeping yourself and others safe
- Self-awareness
- Sex and Relationship education
- Healthy lifestyle
- Online safety
- Being happy
- Connecting with people
- Money

Year 8

- Maintaining friendships
- Personal development
- Alcohol
- Self-awareness
- Bullying
- Keeping safe – first aid
- Gender issues
- Body image
- Sex and Relationship education
- Internet safety
- Budgeting
- Careers
- Leisure time (away from screens)

Year 9

- Learning to take risks
- Cultural appreciation - film
- Sex and Relationship education
- Community and current affairs
- Careers education

Year 10

- Communication skills
- Social media
- Banter
- Sexting

- Body image
- Sex and Relationship education
- Study skills

Year 11

- Who can you talk to?
- Religion and Ethics
- Sex and Relationship education
- Citizenship and law
- Handling money

The **Sixth Form** has a separate programme of visiting speakers and trips, which covers a number of the above topics at the 16+ level. The Lower 6th all get formal Coaching training and the chance to put it into effect as prefects.

The programme is designed by the Head of Sixth in consultation with the Head of Personal Development and the Head of Pastoral Care.

All elements of the course are accessible to all pupils regardless of gender, ethnicity or ability.