



Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Policy 2023-24

Owner: C English

Written – September 2021

Reviewed -8th December 2023

Next Review – December 2024

POLICY CONTEXT AND RATIONALE

This policy covers our school's approach to Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE). Guidance was taken from the PSHE association. It was reviewed in December 2023 and will be reviewed again in December 2024.

The policy is also available on the school website.

POLICY AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Our school's mission is to equip students with the appropriate knowledge and understanding to live independent, confident lives. This policy informs the school's overarching aims and objectives by outlining our approach to the learning environment and effective teaching and learning. Our PSHE education programme promotes a unique approach to wider world issues, including social, moral, spiritual and cultural education as well as fundamental British values.

We will create a safe and supportive learning environment by using autism strategies to facilitate discussion. We will ensure that, where students indicate that they may be vulnerable and at risk, they will get appropriate support from the designated safeguarding lead. This policy is informed by the school's safeguarding policy.

At LVS Hassocks, we ensure that the wellbeing, happiness and safety of students is a priority. PSHE forms an important part of the curriculum and we endeavour that our students will be provided with a PSHE provision that gives them:

- Knowledge and understanding to make informed choices and decisions
- An opportunity to develop self – awareness, confidence and self- esteem
- Responsible attitudes towards physical and mental health, supported by a healthy and safe lifestyle.
- Skills and positive attitude towards building effect relationships and respect for others
- Ability to manage and express feelings appropriately, using tools such as the Zones of Regulation
- Understanding of a diverse society and our rights and responsibilities
- Preparing them for adulthood and independent living
- Supports the outcomes identified in EHCP's
- Enables them to understand their diagnosis of Autism
- Further develop their social and communication skills

ENTITLEMENT EQUALITY AND OPPORTUNITY

At LVS Hassocks, we use PSHE education to address diversity issues and to ensure equality for all. We recognise the right for all students to have access to PSHE education learning which meets their needs. We understand the complexities facing our students in processing abstract concepts and consequently ensure PSHE is embedded into the culture of learning throughout the curriculum.

We promote the needs and interests of all students, irrespective of gender, culture, ability or personal circumstance. Teaching will consider the age, ability, readiness, and cultural backgrounds of children and those with English as a second language to ensure that all can fully access PSHE education provision. We promote diversity and inclusion will consider all students' needs by providing an enriched pastoral curriculum, with student welfare at the forefront of everything we do.

In addition, we expect our students to consider others' needs by contributing to school life in a kind and supportive manner. We will provide students with the appropriate tools for effective and encouraging communication.

INTENDED OUTCOMES

The outcomes from our PSHE curriculum intend to provide students with appropriate knowledge and skills to make progress in the wider world. All students will receive education in line with the statutory guidance as put forward by the Department for Education.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

At LVS Hassocks, students are provided with PSHE lessons on their timetable. These include: Health Studies, Personal Studies, Life Skills, Social Studies and Developing Independence. Students will also receive specific “drop down” days and weekly assemblies with a suitable theme relating to either the weekly learning or national events relating to PSHE. Information about the curriculum content and long-term plans are available in our curriculum booklets which give an outline of the curriculum.

The delivery of all sessions will be differentiated appropriately. All sessions, including those on risky behaviours, remain positive in tone and we will address misconceptions with suitable autism strategies such as social stories and comic strip conversations. We will help pupils make connections between their learning and ‘real life’ behaviours through practical based learning.

We will assess students’ learning and progression through a range of formative and summative assessments. Students at LVS Hassocks complete AQA Unit awards linked to their learning, providing them with certification to demonstrate their achievements.

The programme will be led by the PSHE Co-ordinator. It will be taught by teachers in dedicated lesson time. Classes have a dedicated LSA (Learning Support Assistant) to support the delivery of the programme. All staff responsible for teaching PSHE will receive training through internal CPD (Continuous Professional Development) sessions and external CPD providers such as Educare and the National College.

At LVS Hassocks we aim to foster curiosity. However, we recognise some topics in PSHE can be sensitive. If students’ questions are beyond the scope of the content, the teacher in question has a professional responsibility to either respond or look for support from the PSHE Co-ordinator. To support students who feel uncomfortable speaking in person about certain issues, they can submit a written question or text a dedicated phone number with our “Time to Talk” initiative. These are read and responded to by our school nurse. If a safeguarding issue is raised by an anonymous question, we will follow the relevant safeguarding procedures and ensure the student is supported.

This policy supports/complements the following policies: RSE policy, Safeguarding policy, Online Safety.

PARENTS AND CARERS

At LVS Hassocks we are committed to working with parents and carers and communicate with them on a weekly basis. We will offer support by ensuring parents are given plenty of information about our PSHE curriculum.

For the content of our PSHE programme, please see the Curriculum Booklets for the relevant year group.