

Holymead Primary School

Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education Policy

Rationale

As a school we fundamentally align with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and commit to helping children enjoy and thrive in childhood and mature with a growing set of the skills, dispositions and values that will equip them for a globalised, challenging world in which equality and justice are central to human interaction.

The teaching of Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHC) is covered by non-statutory government guidance, and the coverage of these elements of the curriculum are designed to help give pupils the skills, knowledge and understanding they need to lead confident, healthy, independent lives and become informed, active, responsible citizens. As a UNICEF *Rights Respecting School* we value all members of our community and consider good citizenship, in its widest sense, to be an essential part of our ethos.

At Holymead Primary School, this means all our pupils are encouraged to take part in a wide range of activities and experiences across and beyond the curriculum, contributing as fully as possible to the life of our school and local communities.

In so doing, every pupil learns to recognise their own worth, work well with others and become increasingly responsible for their own learning. They reflect on their experiences and learn to understand how they are developing personally and socially, tackling many of the spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues that are part of growing up.

Pupils find out about main political and social institutions that affect their lives and about their responsibilities, rights and duties as individuals and members of communities. They learn to understand and respect our common humanity; diversity and differences so that they can go on to form effective, fulfilling relationships that are an essential part of life and learning.

Aims

At **Holymead Primary School** we aim to give our pupils, in ways appropriate to their age, opportunities to:

- *learn about, respect and behave in ways which uphold rights and responsibilities; and to value the UNCRC as a member of the UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools network*
- *value human rights, and champion equality, justice, tolerance, pluralism, multi-perspectivity and diversity*
- *take and share responsibility*
- *feel positive about themselves*
- *take part in discussions*
- *make real choices and decisions*
- *meet and talk to people*
- *develop relationships through work and play*
- *consider social and moral dilemmas*
- *ask for and offer help*
- *seek, find and give information and advice*
- *prepare for change*

We do this because we believe in the fundamental value of these experiences and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Guidelines

At Holymead Primary School we deliver the non-statutory framework for PSHC education using the four strands outlined in The National Curriculum.

1. *Developing confidence and responsibility and making the most of their abilities.*
2. *Preparing to play an active role as citizens.*
3. *Developing a healthy safer lifestyle*
4. *Developing good relationships and respecting the differences between people.*

We do this by:

Timetabled PSHC & Circle time sessions

Every class has a dedicated PSHC & circle time with their class teacher, as well as additional circle time sessions where appropriate.

We use the Jigsaw scheme of work.

School Ethos

At Holymead Primary School we believe it is important that many of the skills and attitudes we wish pupils to develop are taught and demonstrated throughout the school in a variety of ways. To deliver our whole curriculum we adhere to the UNCRC and the principles of the UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools network

Pupils will have opportunities to develop their understanding of PSHC education issues through:

- *school ethos*
- *assemblies*
- *school trips*
- *extra curricula activities*
- *classroom and playground rules*
- *Rights Action Group (RAG)*

All of the above is linked in to the Unicef Rights Respecting Schools initiative which teaches children about the Children's Rights Charter (CRC) and how our rights come with responsibilities.

PSHC and its relationship to other curriculum areas

Some aspects of the PSHC framework may also be taught and re-visited in other curriculum areas, eg Science, Geography, Religious Education, English, etc.

Under the Unicef 'Rights Respecting School' framework there is a focus on children understanding their rights, and those of others and how this helps us appreciate diversity and live in harmony with others.

We use 'Clever Never Goes' to teach the children about stranger awareness and how to speak up if they are unsure. It covers topics such as, safe adults who we may encounter if we need help but also recognising the appropriate information to share with them. This gives children the confidence to tell their teachers/ family/ carers if they are unsure about going with a known adult, and why.

In KS2 we use the NSPCC's Child line resources to teach about safety.

We embed this ethos by:

- Linking assemblies to CRC
- Empowering children to become part of the school's decision-making process (Rights Action Group)
- Having a *Rights Respecting Schools* staff steering group
- Displaying articles from the CRC around the school
- Training ALL school staff and Governors
- Using the RRS language

Links

This policy has links to other school policies, for example, on:

- *Anti-bullying*
- *Behaviour*
- *Child Protection*
- *Confidentiality*
- *Drugs and Substance Abuse Education*
- *Equal Opportunities/Inclusion*
- *Safeguarding and e-Safety*
- *Sex and Relationship Education*

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Agreed by:

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