

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION POLICY

Definitions:

1. *'Parent(s)' includes guardian(s) or any person who has parental responsibility for the pupil or who has care of the pupil.*
2. *'Is to', 'are to' and 'must' are obligatory. 'Should' is not obligatory but is best practice and is to be adhered to unless non-compliance can be justified.*

1. The Bishop Wordsworth's School (the School) community believes that encouraging its members to adopt healthy and socially responsible lifestyles should be integral to the ethos and curriculum of a Christian school and is a vital part of preparing its pupils to lead independent lives. Pupils will be provided with accurate information about health and related matters (eg sex education, drugs awareness) and the values, attitudes and behaviours that influence decision making and lifestyles which affect health, well-being and social relations will be explored. The School will promote awareness of and concern for the rights, duties and obligations of members of a democratic, tolerant and pluralistic society.

2. Parents have an important role to play in pupils' personal, social, health and citizenship education and we welcome comments, suggestions and contributions from this source. Parents have the right to withdraw pupils (11 – 16) from all or part of the sex education element of PSHE.

3. The values underpinning the delivery of PSHE and Citizenship at the School are derived from the Judeo-Christian cultural tradition with great emphasis placed upon respect for the individual; tolerance of the faith/ beliefs and opinions of others while stressing the importance of the free will, rights, duties and obligations of the individual in society. The views and values of all faith traditions, and those of no faith, will be respected – the only qualification being that this should be reciprocal.

4. **Confidentiality.** In general, within the context of PSHE, pupils may express opinions, seek information and ask advice in the knowledge that such matters will be deemed confidential. The aim is to promote a climate of mutual trust in which pupils will feel secure raising sensitive issues and concerns for discussion. There may, however, be some cases (eg disclosures that raise safeguarding concerns, or where matters are specified in law by, for example the Children Act) when confidentiality is not appropriate.

5. **Aims.** Pupils are to be:

- a. Provided with information appropriate to their age/ maturity on key matters relevant to their physical, mental and social development.
- b. Made aware of and encouraged to consider health and personal issues related to sexual behaviour, drug use (including alcohol and tobacco), diet, personal hygiene and other aspects of lifestyle.
- c. Encouraged to consider personal relationships (ie social, familial and, when appropriate, sexual including Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) issues) and the rights, responsibilities and obligations inherent in these.

- d. Encouraged to consider lifestyle choices and their implications.
- e. Informed about such matters as human reproduction, sexual behaviour, contraception and STDs.
- f. Equipped with the skills and knowledge to enable them to make informed choices about matters pertaining to their own health and well-being, including making informed choices about use of social media.
- g. Encouraged to consider their roles, obligations and responsibilities in society.

6. **Objectives.** The following: is to be promoted:

- a. The development of pupils' self-esteem.
- b. Pupils' awareness of themselves and others.
- c. Pupils' spiritual, moral and cultural awareness.
- d. A reflective, realistic and responsible attitude towards personal, social, health and citizenship issues.
- e. Pupils' abilities to make reasoned judgements and choices about lifestyles based on knowledge, understanding and self-awareness.
- f. An awareness of the importance of taking responsibility for personal health and lifestyle choices.

7. **Evaluation.** The effectiveness of this Policy is to be evaluated by the PSHE team including periodic consultation with the link governor by the PSHE Co-ordinator.

8. **Review.** This Policy will be reviewed by Governors annually. It was first agreed by Governors on 23 May 1995 and reviewed, amended and re-adopted on 27.2.96, 18.2.97, 17.2.98, 23.2.99, 6.7.99, 4.7.00, 8.10.02. It was substantially re-written and adopted by Governors on 8 October 2003 and was reviewed and re-adopted by Governors on: (dates in parentheses indicate no change) (29.06.04). (28.06.05) (27.06.06), (10.07.07), (16.10.08), (13.10.09), (16.11.10), (27.09.11), (21.11.12), 14.11.13, (20.11.14), 10.11.15, (15.11.16), (09.11.17), 08.11.18, 26.11.19