



Downe House

PSHE (Learning for Life) Policy

The PSHE (Learning for Life) Department aims to take every pupil on a journey to explore their values and belief systems as individuals and as members of the Downe House and global communities. To encourage every girl to achieve her best by providing opportunities to explore and enhance her personal, social, health and economic well-being and the spiritual and moral values that underpin these, in particular the School code of conduct; to treat everyone, whether younger or older, with the same kindness and respect with which you yourself wish to be treated.

The aims and ethos of the School are reflected in the weekly programme delivered to all girls from Remove – UV by a dedicated and passionate team of teachers, as set out in the PSHE Departmental handbook and schemes of work, and is further complemented by guest speakers on a variety of topics relevant to well-being and preparing the pupils for the challenges of the 21st century.

The PSHE (Learning for Life) Programme provides a significant contribution to the School's responsibility to:

- Promote children and young people's well-being
- Achieve the whole curriculum aims
- Promote community cohesion
- Provide careers education
- Provide relationship and sex education

The ethos of the Department is informed and underpinned by the School's values. The PSHE and RSE programme aims to develop:

- Successful learners who enjoy learning, making progress and achieving
- Confident individuals who are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives
- Responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society
- It requires the teaching and living out of the values of individual liberty, rule of law, mutual respect and tolerance. Pupils are also taught explicitly about British values which are defined as: Democracy and the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

These values are taught explicitly through PSHE (Learning for Life), as well as through the School's broad and balanced curriculum in line with the necessary legislation (statutory regulations and guidelines). The Department for Education statutory guidance states that from September 2020 all senior schools must deliver Relationship and Sex Education (RSE).

Safe and Effective Practice

PSHE and RSE often draw on pupils' real-life experiences. A safe and supportive learning environment will be created by establishing ground rules in each context for the delivery of subject material. Staff delivering PSHE and RSE will ensure the pupils, who indicate they may be at risk, get appropriate support by liaising with the appropriate member of the pastoral team and adhering to the Downe House Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

Equality of Opportunity

Classroom practice and pedagogy will take into account pupils' age, ability, readiness and cultural background and pupils with SEND, and will be adjusted to enable all pupils to access the learning. We will use PSHE and RSE education as a way to address diversity issues and to ensure equality for all by addressing contextual issues identified through our pastoral management system. PSHE and RSE delivery is designed to comply with the Equality Act 2010. Provisions within the Equality Act allow the School to take positive action, where it can be shown that it is proportionate, to deal with particular disadvantages affecting one group because of protected characteristics.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from those parts of RSE not within the national curriculum.

This policy makes reference to the following School policies, copies of which can be located on SchoolBase in the 'Documents' section:

Relationship and Sex Education (Reviewer: BD)
Safeguarding and Child Protection (Reviewer: BD)

Revision History:

Revision	Date	Description of changes	Requested By
	February 2020	Implemented	Genevieve Ford

Review Leader: Boarding Deputy
Implemented: February 2020
Next Review: February 2021