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# PSHE

## POLICY

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This policy will be kept up to date and will be reviewed once per year as part of the company's Quality Assurance arrangements.

**Review Period**  
1 Year

**Approved by**  
Directors/Governors

**Review Carried Out By**  
Quality Team

**Date of Approval**  
August 2019

## **Personal Social, Health Education (PSHE) Policy**

### **Introduction**

Orion believes that a strong PSHE education is important to help students develop into well-rounded members of society; that are able to make a positive contribution to their community. At Orion, our PSHE curriculum is strongly tied to our Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development (SMSC) and pastoral care programme.

Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) endeavours to help students to lead confident, healthy and responsible lives as individuals and members of society. Through work in lessons and a range of activities across and beyond the curriculum, students gain practical knowledge and skills to help them live healthily and deal with the spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues they may face as they approach adulthood.

PSHE gives students opportunities to reflect on their experiences and how they are developing. It helps them to understand and manage responsibly a wider range of relationships as they mature and to show respect for the diversity of and differences between people. It also develops student's well-being and self-esteem encouraging belief in their ability to succeed and enabling them to take responsibility for their learning and future choice of courses and career.

### **Aims of the PSHE Programme**

- To enable all students to develop as fully as possible their interests, abilities and aptitudes.
- To allow students to develop lively, enquiring minds so that they can be capable of independent thought and formulate their own opinions.
- To experience enjoyment of learning so that they may be encouraged to take advantage of educational opportunities later in life.
- To develop appropriate skills in literacy and numeracy.
- To develop programmes of study and experiences which will enhance a student's self-respect and confidence and encourage them to take responsibility for themselves and their actions.
- To provide students with the necessary skills to respond effectively to social, economic and political changes as well as changing patterns of work.
- To develop social skills that are necessary to work successfully with other people both inside and outside of the school environment.

- To equip students for their adult roles in society and help them to understand the responsibilities of being parents, citizens and consumers.
- To encourage appreciation of, and concern for, the environment.
- To develop interests and skills that will continue to give personal satisfaction in the use of leisure time.
- To establish partnerships between the school and the community it serves and help to develop an understanding of the wider community and the ways in which individuals and school relate.
- To develop a curriculum which enhance students knowledge and experience and allows them to learn about themselves and the society in which they live, through a variety of social and moral issues.
- To provide students with the experience of school as a caring, supportive community where life is enjoyable and there is equal provision of opportunity, regardless of gender, race, culture or ability.
- To enable students to make informed choices when considering the development of a healthy and safer lifestyle.
- To give students the confidence to discuss difficult issues by encouraging non judgemental participation by students and staff.
- Giving the students an opportunity to air the views and be involved in discussion and debates throughout the curriculum (e.g. Student Voice).

### **Student Voice**

The personal development and wellbeing of each student at Orion is of utmost importance and plays a key role within the curriculum and forms the core of pastoral care. We aim to consult students at every opportunity to make their voices heard and bring change through the Student Voice.

## Teaching Methods and Learning Approach of the PSHE Curriculum

Orion will deliver standalone classes on PSHE every week; however we recognise that PSHE cannot always be confined to specific timetabled time. At Orion PSHE is delivered within a whole school approach which includes:

- Teaching PSHE through and in other subject/curriculum areas.
- Through PSHE activities and school focus days or events.
- Through tutorials/pastoral care and guidance.

## PSHE through Other Subject/Curriculum Areas

Additionally other curriculum subjects have opportunities to make links with the PSHE Framework through their programme of study.

- **English** - skills in enquiry and communication, use of resources, discussion and presentation of arguments, texts with personal, health and relationship issues.
- **Maths** - aspects of financial capability
- **Science** - teaching and learning on health, drugs (including medicines), sex education and safety.
- **Design/Technology** - health, safety and hygiene issues, the consideration of social, moral and cultural dilemmas associated with the global environmental impact of products.
- **ICT** - finding ICT based information, handling data, e-mail for communication and exchange of ideas. Considering the ethical impact of the use of computers on our lives; looking at the impact of legislation such as the Data Protection Act and IP
- **Art and Design** - respect of the differences between people through an investigation of artists, craftspeople and designers from Europe and the rest of the world.
- **History** - ideas, beliefs, attitudes and experiences of people from the past, issues of cultural diversity including Britishness & Democracy.
- **Physical Education** - teaching and learning about health, safety and fitness, development of co-operation and commitment, teamwork.
- **Employability/World of Work** - developing students' understanding of the world of work and their role as consumers and aspects of financial capability; looking at the ethical nature of businesses, balance profit against morals; impact of employment legislation.

We use visiting speakers to broaden the curriculum and share their real life experiences. Any such speakers are closely monitored by the class teacher who should use their professional judgement to end a speech if they consider it to contravene any of the aims of this No Platform Policy, the Visitors Policy or the values of our school.

Teaching will take into account the ability, age and cultural backgrounds of all students in the class and will be tailored accordingly. Adaptations will be made for those for whom English is a second language to ensure that all students can fully access PSHE educational provision.

All students with special educational needs will receive PSHE education, with content and delivery tailored to meet their individual needs.

### **Pastoral Care**

PSHE will also be delivered as part of pastoral care activities. Students have access to a range of services and activities which are designed to support their personal, social, health and emotional wellbeing and motivate them to achieve their full potential. Students may self-refer to these services and activities or may be referred by a member of staff.

### **Monitoring**

As for any other lesson, teachers will keep an attendance record of students' attendance at PSHE sessions. Teachers with responsibility for assemblies ensure that students who have missed important safety PSHE sessions are provided with catch-up information on their return to school.

Orion is focussed on enhancing the development of each staff member in terms of their understanding and implementation of PSHE knowledge and strategies to deliver. This includes holding regular staff meetings, induction for new staff, through CPD sessions and network meetings.

### **Parental Involvement**

The involvement of parents and the community in delivering a cohesive PSHE programme is vital and parents are given an opportunity to find out and discuss the PSHE programme through parents evening, open days, involvement in school programmes, leaflets and displays, parents newsletters and through student progress reports.