St Paul's Academy PSHE statement

At St Paul's Academy we are currently overhauling our Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) provision to ensure that our programme is robust and structured in a way most suited to the needs of our young people. Our PSHE programme is delivered in a way that supports our students to become independent, responsible, healthy and confident members of society, as well as developing the 'whole child' in a spiritual, ethical and intellectual way. Our new whole-school mapped approach to PSHE is so that our programme will lead to excellence across the curriculum and later in life.

Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education focuses on the holistic development of each of our students. Our PSHE programme is currently delivered through our Form Time programme and provides rich learning opportunities for students to discover who they are, strategies to help them cope with everyday challenges and support developing lifelong skills as a resilient, confident and successful member of society.

Our broad PSHE curriculum ensures that students wellbeing, decision making, understanding of relationships and stress management are supported. Our PSHE programme is delivered from Year 7 – 11 and begins with students feeling supported in their transition to secondary school, all the way to study skills and wellbeing management for our Year 11 students. Our PSHE programme is designed to allow our students to independently manage many of the challenges and responsibilities that they face. It is designed to help empower our young people and is adaptable to tackle key issues that arise throughout each academic year, including responses to global events, social media trends and any other topics or events that impact the lives of our young people in a local, national or global setting.

Throughout the academic year, there will be meetings between the PSHE working party, members of the senior leadership team and consultation with parents around key topics, particularly RSE provision. Student voice will also be included through feedback from our student council and form representatives. The feedback gathered will help refine the PSHE and RSE programme that will be delivered in the Academic Year 2023/2024.

A key area of focus throughout the 2023/2024 academic year will be developing the supplementary St Paul's Academy community programme which will be designed by Heads of Year to ensure that all topics that directly impact the lives of our students are explored in a safe and nurturing environment with their form tutor. The purpose of the community programme will be to equip our young people to manage the challenges and responsibilities they face in their day to day lives in order to support them in becoming 'all that they might be' [St Paul's Academy Prayer].

The programme is delivered through our Form Time programme as it is designed to be an enriching subject for students. By delivering it during Form Time it gives students the confidence to engage in lessons based on topics that tackle a range of issues that effect, or may affect them, throughout their lives. PSHE lessons are set up with ground rules to safely explore a range of attitudes through group work, teacher and/or student led discussions and where appropriate short case studies. Students are also reminded of the avenues of support available throughout the school. The purpose of the lessons is to ensure that students are given factual information around real-life topical issues in order to develop attitudes of thoughtfulness, confidence and empathy as well as developing their critical-thinking skills so that they can adapt the skillset used in lessons to their lived experiences.

The PSHE curriculum links to, and supports, other subject's curriculum through its focus on spiritual, moral, social and cultural education. The programme has been designed with the support of national programmes such as the PSHE Association and Ten Ten. We follow the National Statutory Requirements for our PSHE curriculum.