



PSHCE Policy

Mount St Mary's Catholic High School PSHCE Policy

Adopted by Mount St Marys' Governing Body on 1 July 2023

Signed

Chair of Governors

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Claire R. M.', is written over a horizontal line.

Review date: 1 July 2026

1. Aims

The aims of personal, social, health and economic (PSHCE) education in our school are to:

Our PSHCE programme (ASPIRE curriculum) is rooted in our school values and aims to equip each pupil with a sound understanding of risk, the knowledge and skills required to safely and successfully make informed decisions that will aid them in navigating their way through life whilst at school and to prepare them for life beyond the school gate in a changing globalised world.

We recognise that PSHCE can encompass many areas of study and so our programme draws on the statutory content already outlined in the national curriculum, the basic school curriculum and in statutory guidance on: drug education, financial education, relationship and sex education (RSE) and the importance of physical activity and diet for a healthy lifestyle. Some of its content is also woven throughout other curriculum areas such as Science, ICT, Citizenship and PE.

2. Statutory requirements

PSHCE is a non-statutory subject. However, there are aspects of it we are required to teach.

We must teach relationships and sex education (RSE) under the Children and Social Work Act 2017, in line with the terms set out in statutory guidance

We must teach health education under the same statutory guidance. You can access our RSE Policy on our website <http://mountstmarys.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/R-and-S-Education-Policy.pdf> which details a parent/carer's right to withdraw their child from certain aspects of RSE which do not form part of the science national curriculum.

This policy also complies with the terms of our funding agreement.

3. Content and delivery

3.1 What we teach

As stated above, we are required to cover the content for relationships and sex education, and health education, as set out in the statutory guidance (linked to above).

Refer to our relationships and sex education policy for details about what we teach, and how we decide on what to teach, in this subject. This can be found on our website. <http://mountstmarys.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/R-and-S-Education-Policy.pdf>

For other aspects of PSHCE, including health education, see our ASIRE curriculum map for more details about what we teach in each year/Key Stage.

3.2 How we teach it

- PSHCE Lessons occur once a week during form time. We also have bespoke drop down days, assemblies and enrichment events for each year group that are set out in our ASPIRE curriculum map.
- In addition, we provide our students ample opportunities to be involved in enrichment experiences that are linked to elements of PSHCE and SMSC.
- Form tutors deliver the ASPIRE curriculum during PSHCE form time and we have many local and national partners, outside agencies and charities who come into school to deliver aspects of our PSHCE curriculum, such as St. Giles charity who focus on the aspects of Keeping Safe and online safety.

- All our PSHCE lessons are fully resourced and form tutors will use our school's IPPs (Individual Pupil Plans) to ensure they plan for everyone and all pupils have access to this curriculum. Lessons are differentiated and tailored to the needs of individuals.
- PSHCE involves teaching and learning about a range of subjects many of which are sensitive or challenging and for some children and young people could be directly relevant to their lives and therefore there is a need to create an environment that allows students to focus on learning. Mount St. Mary's has a clear working agreement that is negotiated and established at the start of each PSHCE lesson in all year groups. We include the concept of confidentiality which means
 - Respect for the privacy of the individual – no one will be pressured to answer questions or to share anything they don't want to.
 - Adults in the classroom being bound by the same rules, except where a student discloses something that is a child protection issue and this must be reported immediately (all staff have received Child Protection training on these issues).
 - Agreed parameters on 'safe' discussions, where students feel free to express their opinions without judgement, allowing for real discussion and reflection to take place.
 - When discussing controversial topics or difficult questions from pupils, teachers don't let their personal beliefs and attitudes influence teaching
 - Whole school audits are completed to assess where form tutors need training to ensure they have the skills and knowledge to teach all aspects of PSHCE.
 - We have a bespoke curriculum map matched to the needs of our students in each year group through the ASPIRE programme. Staff also have access to resources, which has assessment material to measure students' understanding.
 - Families receive an annual report from their tutor on Target Setting Day in the Summer term that will link into our 5Rs (Responsible, Resilience, Respectful, Retribuam, Reflect) and the work they do in PSHCE. This is reported on as a subject in terms of engagement and how much they have fully understood. In addition, form tutors are available for parents evenings for feedback throughout the year.

4. Roles and responsibilities

4.1 The governing board

The governing board will approve the PSHCE policy and hold the headteacher, deputy headteacher and assistant headteacher to account for its implementation.

4.2 The Senior Leaders

The Deputy Headteacher and Assistant Headteacher are responsible for ensuring that PSHCE is taught consistently across the school.

4.3 Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Delivering PSHCE in a sensitive way
- Modelling positive attitudes to PSHCE
- Monitoring progress
- Responding and feeding the needs of individual pupils

4.4 Pupils

Pupils are expected to engage fully in PSHCE and, when discussing issues related to PSHCE, treat others with respect and sensitivity, understanding that they are 'safe' to express their opinions and beliefs, even though at times these may be challenges by others, in order for them to reflect on how these may impact others in society.

5. Monitoring arrangements

The delivery of PSHCE is monitored by Mark Wylam Deputy Headteacher and Chris Coombes Assistant Headteacher through:

Work scrutinies, learning walks, student and staff voice, QA of lessons, resources and delivery.

This policy will be reviewed by Mark Wylam annually. At every review, the policy will be approved by the governing board and the headteacher.

6. Links with other policies

This policy links to the following policies and procedures:

RSE policy

SMSC and FBV policy

Behaviour policy

Safeguarding and Child Protection policy

Attendance policy