



PSHEE and the Stuart Additional Curriculum

PRINCIPLES

Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHEE) encourages pupils to develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they need to keep themselves healthy and safe, and prepared for life and work in the modern world. PSHEE inspires and supports individuals to thrive, becoming happy and positive contributors to the St Dunstan's Community, British society, and the wider world. It is also an opportunity to enrich the SMSC life of the community.

The PSHEE curriculum is embedded throughout the school and delivered within timetabled Stuart Additional Curriculum lessons in the Junior School. In the Senior School, PSHEE is delivered through timetabled Stuart Additional Curriculum lessons, timetabled Usherwood lessons, tutorial sessions and assemblies, the Hecker Core Curriculum, and Forder Co-curricular clubs. Its consistent integration across the school supports the pastoral care and personal development of each pupil as they learn about health and wellbeing, relationships, and living in the wider world in an environment where they are already understood and accepted. In addition, and since all teachers apart from Senior Leaders are normally also tutors, the delivery of PSHEE through tutorial time ensures its profile and importance to all staff as well as pupils.

The PSHEE programme promotes fundamental British values (democracy, respecting the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect, and tolerance of those of other faiths and beliefs – or none). Integral to this is a commitment to countering the dangers of extremism and radicalisation, and to respect and include those with protected characteristics as set out by the 2010 Equality Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion, or belief (including none), sex, and sexual orientation).

Relationships education is a thread that runs across all age groups. Sex education is addressed in an age-appropriate fashion.

Many subjects also independently address topics related to PSHEE and the Stuart Additional Curriculum; for example, Biology (the effects of smoking and drugs), History (genocide and equality), PE (fitness and a healthy balanced lifestyle), Geography (sustainability and resource use). PSHEE and SMSC awareness and education is understood by the College not to be an education delivered only at certain times or in specific contexts, but to be integral to community life in general.

PROCESS

Junior School (Years 1-6):

PSHEE is delivered via Junior School Stuart Additional Curriculum lessons, which are taught by a member of the Junior School Leadership Team or trained Form Teacher. The order of the topics taught acts as a guideline for teachers. A flexible approach is adopted in order that skills can be taught at a different time as relevant and appropriate for any given class or cohort of pupils, however pupils all study a carousel of three areas over the course of the year: Relationships (including Sex Education); Critical Thinking; and Skills for the Future. This personalised approach to our PSHEE programme enables us to effectively tackle issues and topics at the most appropriate time for the children. Please see our PSHEE and Stuart Additional Curriculum Scheme of Work for more details.

In order to support PSHEE and SMSC enrichment, themes for the week are published in the calendar and are reflected upon in Junior School Monday Assemblies in order to stimulate Form based reflections and discussions across the week.

This programme is further supplemented by a calendar of additional events. These include key stage or year group assemblies and appropriately researched visiting speakers. Presentations and/or workshops from external bodies include anti-bullying, sex and relationships and e-Safety and are constantly evolving to reflect the need and content of PSHEE and Stuart Additional Curriculum lessons, augmented by teacher reflection on current pupil understanding of a range of topics.

Senior School (Years 7-13):

PSHEE – Years 7 - 13

In order to support PSHEE and SMSC enrichment via the tutorial programme, themes for the week are published in the calendar and are reflected upon in whole school Monday Assemblies in order to stimulate tutorial reflections across the week ahead. Please see our PSHEE and Stuart Additional Curriculum Scheme of Work for more details.

This programme may be further supplemented by a calendar of additional events. These include key stage or year group assemblies and appropriately researched visiting speakers. The College's counsellors also address pupils on relevant topics, and tutors and relevant subject specialists contribute to each programme. This programme evolves across the year in response to feedback from pupils, parents, and staff. For example, in the academic year 2021-22, sessions were run by Feminista training, and in the academic year 2022-2023, our externally led workshops included sessions from *Tender* and *IT Happens*.

Stuart Additional Curriculum

Our Stuart Additional Curriculum and lessons support the delivery of PSHEE and SMSC enrichment, but actively seek to cover a broader set of skills (including practical ones) to prepare pupils for life. They are accessible, stimulating, and rewarding; they deliver knowledge about the wider world by looking at different themes of global significance and encourage students to question, evaluate, problem-solve, and synthesise different points of view. Students study a carousel of three areas over the course of the year: Relationships (including Sex Education);

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Next Review: Michaelmas 2024

Critical Thinking and Rhetoric; and Skills for the Future (including Careers). Please see our PSHEE and Stuart Additional Curriculum Scheme of Work for more details.

Study skills are advanced in: summarising and synthesis of arguments from different sources; recognising bias; teamwork; and communication. Analytical and communication skills are advanced through public speaking and presenting, showing awareness of different perspectives, debating and evaluation of sources. These can be applied to encouraging awareness of the world outside school, human rights, citizenship, our interaction with society and institutions and global issues generally.

Usherwood Curriculum

Throughout the senior school, students have timetabled lessons every Monday dedicated to the Usherwood curriculum, primarily delivered by their form tutors. In the Lower School, these lessons take place every week and in the Middle School, they have one lesson a fortnight. In the Sixth Form, the Usherwood Curriculum is delivered through the Sixth Form Tutorial Programme, which runs through tutorials and a weekly timetabled lesson. The curriculum is focused on providing students with knowledge on mental health and their own wellbeing and is broken down into three main strands including: wellbeing, mental health and resilience, individual learner characteristics and neurodiversity as well as pastoral care and being part of a compassionate community. These lessons are delivered through a mixture of informative sessions and form discussions, talks by external specialists, and active sessions where students can expect to get involved in mindfulness art, yoga, sports activities, and so on.

The Usherwood curriculum seeks to not only provide students with essential knowledge but also provides students with the opportunity to realise the importance of looking after your own wellbeing. The aim is for all students to have a toolkit where they are able to recognise common learner characteristics, mental health disorders or poor wellbeing and how they could go about seeking the support that they, or others close to them might need.

Quality assurance

The College takes seriously its responsibility to children, parents, and the wider community both to deliver a high quality, impartial and forward thinking PSHEE and SMSC enrichment in line with our responsibilities, including to the 2010 Equality Act.

Content is reviewed annually, and delivery is scrutinised too. The Director of the Stuart Additional Curriculum, working with the Deputy Head (Academic), oversees the Stuart Additional Curriculum. Heads of Section (Pastoral Senior Leaders) work with Tutors to ensure consistent delivery and valuable, impartial, discussion of PSHEE and SMSC content during Tutorial time, including via Tutorial time learning walks and section meetings. Further information on our Schemes of Work can be found in the PSHEE Schemes of Work Policy.