

## Curriculum Intent for PSHE

At Dixons Cottingley we develop students to lead successful and happy lives and make a positive contribution to their community. Our curriculum in each year is designed to provide experiences, opportunities, knowledge and skills that enrich and challenge our students. We understand that the curriculum is key to determining the life chances and choices for our students and therefore we will not compromise on providing the very best. We achieve this in PSHE through the below:

### By the end of Year 11 students at Dixons Cottingley studying PSHE will:

- know how to be safe and healthy
- know how to manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way
- understand the increasingly complex world and the positive and exciting opportunities it offers, but also the challenges and risks

### The PSHE curriculum at Cottingley has been sequenced by the following rationale:

- the curriculum being delivered is appropriate for the age of pupils, and the context of the year group.
- the curriculum is responsive to pupils needs, keeping the curriculum 'live' ensuring that it can adapt and be changed in line with our ever changing social and academic environment. e.g. adapting to the national pandemic, including tailoring the overview for personal social and health education and remote learning during school closure.
- the content is designed to be remembered in detail and delivered in a spiral fashion. Revisiting themes and concepts through the year groups to ensure content is always up to date, and relevant to the age range.
- we measure the impact of the curriculum by our pupils' behaviour and attitudes towards themselves and others.
- we take pride in our caring, supportive pupils who leave the academy informed about the world in which they live, prepared for the challenges and opportunities to come.

### Our PSHE curriculum ensures that social disadvantage is addressed through:

- oracy can be a key determining factor in a child's future social and, ultimately, professional success. Unfortunately, students from disadvantaged backgrounds - and particularly with the cohort of students we serve - do not always have same level of social and cultural competence as their non-disadvantaged peers. As a result, the PSHE curriculum prioritises oracy skills in discursive seminars, which are pupil led discussions, that enable them to explore content delivered in the previous lecture. It is a great opportunity to encourage healthy conversations about topics that can sometimes be challenging or difficult to understand.
- where necessary students with special educational needs benefit from having higher staffing ratios in PSHE, the extra staff all being specialist teachers benefits not only those who may require extra assistance, but all our pupils.

### Opportunities to build an understanding of social, moral and ethical issues are developed alongside links to the wider world, including careers, through:

- throughout the PSHE curriculum there are opportunities to link to careers and the world of work. We ensure that pupils are used to professional language by always modelling and encouraging formal terms in all the topics covered.
- age appropriate curriculum tailored around the 3 core themes of PSHE; health & wellbeing, living in the wider world and relationships.

### A true love of PSHE is developed by teaching beyond statutory requirements. Examples of such content:

- the PSHE curriculum requires pupils cover each topic at least once in their academic career, however we revisit topics on multiple occasions through all phases to ensure pupils always have the most up to date and age-appropriate information.
- through PSHE seminars, pupils are encouraged to express their opinions in a safe and respectful environment in form groups. These sessions instil a much deeper level of understanding of not only the information but allow pupils to explore multiple opinions on a topic; and over time develop their own.
- whilst we take direction from the Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education guidance, and PSHE association, we go above and beyond these requirements and choose resources that best fit the needs of our context.
- our overview and content decisions are aligned with those of the Dixons Academies Trust principles.