



# St. John Fisher

CATHOLIC COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

## Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Policy

### The Mission Statement:

**'St. John Fisher Catholic Comprehensive School inspires students, spiritually and educationally, forming them through Faith so they can achieve their aspirations and contribute to their community.'**

<b><i>Date of Review:</i></b>	May 2025
<b><i>Date of Ratification:</i></b>	12 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
<b><i>Date of Next Review:</i></b>	May 2027
<b><i>Chair of Governors:</i></b>	Mr. O. McColgan
<b><i>Policy Approving Body:</i></b>	Catholic Mission and Ethos Committee
<b><i>Policy Owner:</i></b>	Mrs. L. Bennett
<b><i>Statutorily Published on Website:</i></b>	No

## **PSHE Policy**

### **Introductory statement**

Personal, Social, Health, and Economic Education (PSHE) and Citizenship at St John Fisher enables students to develop the knowledge and understanding, skills, attitudes and values which are necessary for them to make sense of the responsibilities, opportunities and experiences which are part of their lives, both now and in the future, and in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church. PSHE and Citizenship learning at St John Fisher also underpins and promotes the fundamental British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs, along with the school's values and 5 Respects (Respect for God, self, others, learning and environment) .

The role of PSHE and Citizenship in aiding students' personal development is at the core of education at St John Fisher and is supported by the following quote from the National Curriculum Handbook for Primary and Secondary Teachers in England (1999 revised 2004).

"The school curriculum should aim to promote students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and prepare all students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life." The handbook sets out two broad aims for the school curriculum:

- To provide opportunities for all pupils to learn and achieve; and
- To promote children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and prepare all pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.

### **Aims and Objectives of PSHE and Citizenship at St John Fisher**

PSHRE and Citizenship enable our students to become healthy, independent and responsible members of society while forming them through Faith. We encourage our students to play a positive role in contributing to the life of the school and the wider community. In doing so, we help them grow in faith and develop spiritually which underpins ethical choices and a strong sense of moral purpose and sense of self-worth. We teach our students how society is organised and governed. We ensure that they experience the process of democracy in school through the student council and the student voice. We teach them about rights and responsibilities. They learn to appreciate what it means to be a positive member of a diverse multicultural society, again underpinning and promoting British Values.

The aim of PSHE and Citizenship is to enable our students to:

- Explore their faith and how their faith and the faith of others enrich our lives.
- Stay as healthy as possible.
- Learn to keep themselves and others safe.
- Develop effective and satisfying relationships.
- Learn to respect the differences between people.
- Be independent and responsible members of the school community.
- Be positive and active members of a democratic society.

- Develop self-confidence and self-esteem and make informed choices regarding personal and social issues.
- Develop good relationships with other members of the school and the wider community.

### **Teaching and Learning Strategies at St John Fisher**

When teaching any aspect of PSHE and Citizenship, the approaches to teaching and learning and the methodology used are as important as the content. Whole class discussion and debates, and responding to incidents as they arise, are valid opportunities for addressing PSHE issues; but skills, attitudes and behaviour will be developed more effectively if a variety of strategies are used. Active learning techniques enable learning to take place not only around knowledge and understanding, but also in the areas of skill, attitudes, behaviour, and respect. For instance, by only listening to the teacher talking about how to maintain friendships or by reading about it, the student may gain knowledge and understanding. To also develop their own skills in this area, they need to practice them through participating in role play, for example. Activities and opportunities to reflect on, to process and evaluate their learning also need to be included. Many personal and social skills can also be developed through other areas of the curriculum through effective implementation of the appropriate methodology (for example, presenting in groups which requires communication and cooperation between group members for the task to be completed).

### **Curriculum organisation**

PSHE is taught as a discreet subject via a dedicated 2 x 20-minute sessions for year 7 through to year 13 which also includes opportunity for prayer and reflection. The PSHE programme is mapped across each individual subject. Added to this, we also schedule in each year 'Curriculum Focus Days'. Curriculum Focus Days at SJF are designed to complement, secure, and extend our already comprehensive PSHE curriculum. These kinds of days also provide our students with a deeper learning experience, giving students the opportunity to ask questions which are answered factually and, in an age-appropriate manner by external trained professionals.

Citizenship at St John Fisher is a compulsory subject from year 7 through to year 11. At KS3, Citizenship is taught through a discreet 1-hour lesson each week. From Year 9 through to Year 11 citizenship is taught discreetly through 2 hours per week leading to all students being entered into a GCSE external examination

PSHE and Citizenship are also developed through activities, assemblies, and whole-school events. For example, year group council's representatives hold regular meetings and two representatives from each year group, along with other students who hold leadership positions at St John Fisher, meet termly with the Headteacher and various members of the leadership team to discuss relevant issues.

### **Role of the PSHE and Citizenship Co-ordinator**

The PSHE and Citizenship Co-ordinators has a variety of roles including:

- Leading and supporting opportunities for spirituality across the school.
- Leading the production of this policy and other curriculum documentation including the scheme of work.
- Ensuring continuity and progression throughout the school.
- Supporting colleagues in their development of the plans and in the implementation of the scheme of work, in assessment and record keeping.
- Monitoring progress and sampling work in PSHE and Citizenship and advising the senior leadership team of the outcomes.
- Taking responsibility for the ordering and organising the central resources for PSHE and Citizenship.

### **Resources**

All the resources used:

- Are in line with and uphold the teaching of the Catholic Church
- Are up to date in term of factual content and graphics.
- Do not show unfair bias.
- Avoid racial, gender and sexual stereotyping.
- Are suitable for the age of the students.
- Conform to the legal requirements of the appropriate aspect of PSHE and Citizenship.

### **Use of Visitors**

The PSHE and Citizenship Co-ordinators hold an overview of the visits and visitors being used to support the PSHE and Citizenship curriculum and has part responsibility for planning such opportunities across the school. Staff who invite external speakers/visitors to deliver presentations/hold workshops need to complete an 'Event' form identifying SMSC development along with identifying aspects of PSHE and Citizenship education. Staff are responsible for ensuring that visitors supporting curriculum delivery in PSHE, and Citizenship are aware of relevant policies in a Catholic context for instance, Relationship and Sex Education (in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church as identified in the Education in Human Love Policy), drug education, child protection, equal opportunities, and work in a manner consistent with their requirements.

All visitors to the school should report to and sign in at reception and receive a visitor's badge. Any person working with students should have a Disclosure Barring Service (DBS) check. If there is no DBS, they must be always accompanied by someone who does have the DBS check.

Any external speakers should be always accompanied, and their material checked beforehand for suitability.

### **Assessment**

Assessment is as central to PSHE and Citizenship, as it is to learning in any other area, and should be planned for in the same way. Self-assessment has a core role in PSHE and Citizenship at KS3 particularly within those elements which relate to personal and social development. It is important, therefore, to provide opportunities throughout the planning and delivery of PSHE and Citizenship for students at St John Fisher to be involved in reflecting on their strengths, their needs, their learning, and their development.

Summative assessment, of what has been learned, is applied at the end of a unit of work or of a topic. Formative assessment, which is used to inform future teaching and learning, takes place throughout the PSHE and Citizenship programme.

Citizenship assessment falls in line with the Whole School Data Window Schedule

Progress in PSHE and Citizenship is reported to:

- Students in accordance with St John Fisher's Whole School Marking Policy.
- Parents in accordance with St John Fisher's Data Window Schedule and through an annual report.

### **Review and Monitoring**

The PSHE and Citizenship Co-ordinator along with the senior leadership team is responsible for monitoring the standards of work and the quality of teaching and learning alongside the provision of prayer and reflection. The co-ordinator supports colleagues in the teaching of PSHE and Citizenship, giving them information about current developments in the subject and by providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in the school. The co-ordinator is also responsible for giving the Headteacher and Governors report on request, evaluating strengths and weaknesses in the subject and indicating areas for further improvement.

### **Professional Development**

Staff need to feel confident to deliver aspect of the PSHE and Citizenship curriculum therefore support is offered through external and in-school training if and when appropriate.