

Woodchurch High School

A Church of England Academy



CITIZENSHIP POLICY DOCUMENT

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Citizenship forms part of the Personal Social Health Citizenship and Economic Education (PSHCEE) curriculum, which is delivered in every year group.

It links closely to the teaching of the British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. Many aspects of the Citizenship curriculum also link to the school's eleven Christian values such as justice, integrity and service.

Monitoring the effectiveness of the Citizenship policy is the responsibility of the PSHCEE and English Subject Leaders, who liaise with staff delivering Citizenship in both Key Stages, as well as with the School Council and the whole of the wider school community.

1. Citizenship Aims

At Woodchurch High School the aims of the Citizenship curriculum are:

- To provide opportunities for all pupils to learn and achieve;
- To promote pupils' personal development to help prepare all pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life;
- To support pupils in developing confidence and responsibility and making the most of their abilities;
- To encourage pupils to develop healthy, safer lifestyles;
- To support pupils in developing good relationships, and the skills of conflict resolution and respecting the differences between people;
- To encourage pupils to take responsibility for their own learning;
- To explore and discuss topical and controversial issues of significance and interest;
- To encourage all pupils to make a positive contribution and achieve economic wellbeing;
- To encourage pupils to explore and discuss issues through informed discussion and debate, simulation activities or role play and to understand the importance of values, individual conscience and moral considerations;
- To teach pupils about their and others' rights and responsibilities;
- To provide pupils with time to reflect on their experiences and views;
- To equip pupils with the knowledge and understanding needed to become informed citizens;
- To encourage pupils to develop their skills of enquiry and communication;
- To help pupils develop skills of participation, responsible action advocacy and representation, and critical thinking

2. Citizenship Curriculum Delivery

Citizenship is delivered using the following:

a) Provision through English in Years 7 and 8

Citizenship is part of the PSHCEE curriculum (Personal Social Health, Citizenship and Economic Education). At Key Stage 3 (Years 7 and 8) all aspects of this curriculum are delivered mainly through English lessons.

b) Provision through teaching and learning in other subjects/curriculum areas

Aspects of the Citizenship curriculum are also taught within and through other subjects and curriculum areas, e.g Humanities, English, Technology, Art. Subjects offer opportunities to make links through their programmes of study, schemes of work and lesson plans. Citizenship may be identified in the appropriate lesson plans of different subject and this is monitored through Curriculum Leaders.

c) Citizenship activities and school events including Drop Down Days

Woodchurch High School provides a wide range of activities and events that support delivery of the concepts and processes of the Citizenship curriculum. These include assemblies, residential experiences, visits, Form Council, School Council and Year Council elections and meetings, work experience placements, Eco campaigns, Youth Parliament, Archbishop of York Young Leaders Award, Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme and the Interact Committee.

At the time of General Elections, pupils are given the opportunity to take part in a mock election in school. There are workshops, campaign teams, campaigning in assemblies, voter registration and the chance to vote for their preferred candidate. The elected pupil is the 'School MP'.

Pupils represent school at a number of external events such as Wirral Youth Conference, Wirral Youth Parliament and Holocaust Memorial Day.

Each form has two form representatives, two eco representatives and two Christian Values representatives. Democratic processes are used to elect the different types of representatives in each form and to elect the pupils who represent the year group in Student Council, Eco Committee, Interact Committee etc.

There are many citizenship – related links to the local community, e.g. Police, Fire Service, Council, MP, Wirral LA, local churches and care homes. Pupils also exhibit their active citizenship through many varied methods including harvest packs, Christmas shoeboxes, hampers, visits to the elderly, regeneration projects etc.

All pupils take part in charity fundraising during the year and most of these activities are planned and organised by the children themselves.

School is proactive in involving visitors in Citizenship education and learning opportunities. There is close working with a wide range of agencies and individuals who contribute to lessons, assemblies, public events and specially organised workshops and days. We value the significant contribution these make to provision at Woodchurch High School.

3. Staff

Co-ordinating the delivery of Citizenship across the school is the responsibility of the PSHCEE Subject Leader. His/her role is to support staff in their delivery by keeping up to date with information on national, regional and local developments in the subject. The Subject Leader uses staff and pupil feedback to inform delivery.

CPD is essential in raising standards and improving Teaching & Learning, and there are regular Citizenship items at staff, curriculum and pastoral meetings as appropriate. The Subject Leader liaises with Citizenship staff in other schools when relevant, and is involved with the Association of Citizenship Teachers and the Citizenship Foundation.

4. Teaching & Learning

Citizenship teachers follows the whole school Teaching & Learning Policy. Year 7 and 8 lessons are observed (learning walks and more formal observations) by the English Curriculum Leader and SLT members (during a review), with feedback given to each member of staff individually in order to identify strengths and areas for development. .

Work scrutiny is carried out by the Subject Leader with feedback given to staff.

The PSHCEE Subject Leader attends Teaching and Learning Group meetings, and the English Curriculum Leader has a whole school role regarding Teaching and Learning.

5. Resources

Resources to support Teaching & Learning are purchased and disseminated by the Curriculum Leader. All schemes of work including lesson plans, links to DVDs, worksheets, useful websites etc are in the PSHCEE folder in Shared Documents, and are updated regularly.

6. Assessment

Citizenship teachers follow the Whole School Policy on Assessment, Reporting and Recording.

7. Sensitive and Controversial Issues

The teaching of sensitive and controversial issues, such as asylum seekers, immigration, terrorism and euthanasia need to be handled with care and consideration of the emotional effect these subjects can have on pupils.

Any materials, such as DVDs, that cover such issues will always be viewed by the teacher prior to being show to a class.

8. Monitoring and Evaluation

In Years 7 and 8 pupils' progress is tracked carefully and data inputted into whole school systems every six weeks. This is then used to identify any underachievement and intervention strategies are then put in place to rectify this. (Diagnosis, therapy, testing).

In a similar way, BFL grades from reports are also used to identify pupils who need to improve certain aspects of their learning behaviours, and strategies are put in place to bring about this improvement.

Pupil behaviour is monitored through the use of IRIS, with the Curriculum Leader supporting staff where necessary with pupil interviews, detentions, report cards and, in some instances, group changes.

Schemes of work are regularly reviewed by both staff and pupils, leading to the being adapted when relevant.