



St. James' Church of England Primary School Lower Darwen

**'Building One Faith, One
Family,
Our Future'**

PSHE and Citizenship Policy

Revised by L Bryan – Spring 2026
Approved by Governors – Spring 2026

Review Date – Spring 2028 (Standards Committee)

Foundation, Vision and Intent

St James' Lower Darwen

Church of England Primary School



"Building One Faith, One Family, Our Future."

"We offer a holistic curriculum that champions our community and is aspirational."

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

through

ENRICHMENT

THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM

SKATS

FORGIVENESS

COMPASSION

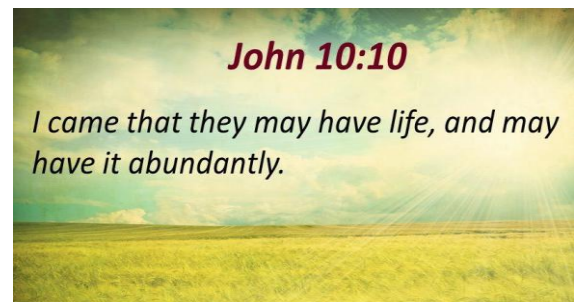
LOVE

TRUTH

JUSTICE

Jeremiah 29:11

John 10:10



We want our children to know that **God has a plan for them** that means **they live their best life possible**.

Each **policy** and procedure within school, alongside the ongoing **curriculum** delivery, our **SKATS** programme, **enrichment** and the **spiritual development** offered to our families through Worship, RE and our links with Church, work towards making this happen.

Introduction

The policy covers our approach to PSHE. It aims to set out the purpose and intended outcomes for pupils and is based on guidance provided in the following documents:

Education Act 2002

Academies Act 2010

DFE Guidance Personal, social and Economic Education Guidance September (2021)

DFE Guidance for the teaching of the statutory RSE and Health Education (2020)

Every Child Matters

Keeping Children Safe in Education (2024)

We believe that PSHE and citizenship is integral to many aspects of school life and this policy should be cross referenced with the following related policies

- **Equality and Diversity**
- **RSE**
- **Safeguarding and Child Protection**
- **Confidentiality**
- **Attendance**
- **Anti-bullying**
- **Continuing Professional Development**

PSHE and Citizenship education is currently a non-statutory subject. However, section 2.5 of the national curriculum asserts all state schools 'should make provision for personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE)'. The PSHE Association states that, 'PSHE education contributes to schools' statutory duties outlined in the Education Act 2002 and the Academies Act 2010 to provide a balanced and broadly-based curriculum and is essential to Ofsted judgements in relation to personal development, behaviour, welfare and safeguarding.' In addition, the Relationships and Health and Wellbeing areas of PSHE and Citizenship education have been compulsory in primary schools since September 2020. *At St James' we recognise that PSHE is a non-statutory component of The National Curriculum but we believe that its importance in the development of pupils is such that its place in our teaching is essential.*

At St James' C.E. Primary School we believe that our pupils have a right to the highest quality personal, social and health education (PSHE)* in order to help them begin to develop the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to lead confident, independent and healthy lives and to participate as informed active and responsible citizens making safe and informed decisions to enable them to thrive.

We use Coram Life Education (SCARF) as a fully resourced online platform which fulfils all DfE statutory requirements for Relationships & Health Education embedded in half term units of work from Reception to Year 6

We will ensure that where pupils indicate that they may be vulnerable or at risk, they will get appropriate support by referring to the Safeguarding Policy or by consulting Senior Leadership Team (SLT) for help or advice.

Protected Characteristics

The UK government recognises how important it is that *"All children gain an understanding of the world they are growing up in, and learn how to live alongside, and show respect for, a diverse range of people. When we inspect*

schools, we assess how well they equip children to do this." (Ofsted guidance: [Inspecting teaching of the protected characteristics in schools](#), UK Gov. 2021)

Equality and an understanding of the protected characteristics are taught throughout the PSHE curriculum in an age-appropriate way rather than through one-off lessons.

Values

Our programme promotes our school's Christian values: love, fairness, compassion, truth and forgiveness. Our school values link to many of the programme's overarching concepts.

Aims, Objectives and Outcomes

PSHE and Citizenship education at St James' aims to explore the knowledge and understanding children need to stay safe, be happy and healthy and fulfil their potential, while also preparing them for life, both in the present and future. It also aims to equip children with the skills they need to live successfully as citizens of the communities to which they belong and enables them to celebrate diversity and treat all people with kindness and respect. PSHE and Citizenship education in our school also aims to encourage children to develop positive mental health and emotional wellbeing, by empowering them with the knowledge of why this is important and how it can be achieved. We want to educate the whole child through our PSHE and Citizenship education and believe this positively impacts the individual, the school community, the wider community and the global community - both present and future.

The Delivery of the PSHE at St James' CE School, will be delivered in a way which is accessible to and inclusive of all pupils. These lessons will involve a variety of teaching methods and interactive activities to encourage pupil engagement. We aim to create a safe and supportive climate for learning in which all children can thrive, feel able to ask questions and discuss issues openly. All of our pupils will participate in weekly PSHE and Citizenship education lessons and these will be taught by staff who are trained in delivering the specific content of the lessons. Ground rules will be established in class and pupils will be reminded regularly of these. Special consideration will be given when teaching particularly sensitive content; staff will be fully aware of the children in their class and how they might relate to the lesson content, providing extra support to enable participation.



Coverage

Statutory Relationships and Health Education

This policy complies with the statutory requirements set out in the DfE guidance *Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education (2020)*.

Through the Coram Life Education (SCARF) programme, the school ensures full coverage of:

- Relationships Education
- Health Education

- Sex Education (as appropriate and in line with statutory guidance)

All content is delivered in an age-appropriate, inclusive and sensitive manner, reflecting the school's Christian ethos and safeguarding responsibilities.

Teaching and learning about protected characteristics are fully integrated into SCARF, through age-appropriate content across the SCARF spiral curriculum. During both KS1 and KS2, the children will receive PSHE education across six overarching themes; however, our curriculum reflects the needs of our individuals and it may be enriched to reflect the needs of particular cohorts or individual pupils. The six themes are as follows

1. Me and my relationships
2. Valuing difference
3. Keeping myself safe
4. Rights and responsibilities
5. Being my best
6. Growing and changing

UNICEF Rights of the child

The values which underpin **the Coram scheme of work** are

Safety, Caring, Achievement, Resilience and Friendship. This content aligns strongly with the UNCRC articles. We aim to create and maintain an environment where the rights of the child are promoted, realised and protected.

Assessment

We will assess pupils' learning through baseline assessment, assessment for learning and assessment of learning. At St. James' we understand the importance of allowing pupils the opportunity to reflect on their learning and that allowing for self-assessment increases pupils' motivation and self-awareness of their own development. We believe that pupils will be able to judge their own levels of confidence or understanding.

Our assessment tools have been designed to work alongside the themes of the SCARF **half termly units of lesson plans** - for Y1 to 6

The management of PSHE and Citizenship Education

Our governing body will work closely with school staff to monitor the teaching and learning of PSHE

Our **head teacher and senior leaders** will support all staff in school in the preparation and delivery of PSHE and work to create a school ethos which supports and upholds content in the curriculum.

Our **PSHE Subject leader** will create and implement a whole school scheme of work appropriate to our school setting. They will support and monitor teaching and learning.

Our **class teachers** will deliver high quality PSHE lessons which follow the Coram scheme of work and current best practice.

Our **support staff** will enhance the delivery of PSHE by providing targeted intervention wherever needed.

Our **pupils** will engage respectfully and responsibly with all taught content.

Assessment outcomes are used to inform future planning and targeted support.

Our parents and carers will be fully informed about what their children will be learning and will be actively encouraged to participate in the curriculum where appropriate. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from **sex education** that is delivered as part of PSHE and Citizenship education **beyond the statutory science curriculum**.

There is **no right to withdraw** from **Relationships Education or Health Education**, which are statutory in all primary schools.

Parents will be informed in advance of any sex education content and will have the opportunity to view materials and discuss the curriculum with the school in order to make an informed decision.

Visitors

At St. James' Lower Darwen, we recognize that visitors to the classroom can bring their expertise or personal stories to enrich pupils' learning. We will use external contributors where the teacher believes that learning objectives and outcomes are clear and previously agreed and that input from such visitors is part of a planned, developmental programme. Teachers will always be present to manage the learning in such circumstances.

Confidentiality

At St James', we understand that due to the nature of PSHE education, pupils' learning may result in them seeking support or advice on a specific personal issue. No teacher can offer complete confidentiality, and it is important for everyone's safety that teachers and pupils are clear about what can and can't remain confidential. The same rules apply for external contributors (e.g. visitors, school nurses, etc.) and they must be clear about these rules whilst they are working in the classroom. This will be achieved by sharing the safeguarding policy with such contributors prior to their work in the classroom. Pupils will also be made aware of rules regarding confidentiality (with each other and the adults in the room) through the setting of ground rules at the start of every lesson.

Timetabling PSHE Education

At St. James', we understand the importance of timetabling PSHE to ensure that pupils experience recurring themes of PSHE every year, where the level of demand increases and learning is progressively deepened. As well as this, PSHE education may also be enriched through:

- whole school enrichment activities – e.g. health day, topic days, sports days; anti-bullying day, mental health awareness day, safer internet day
- visitors to school - e.g. fire officers, dental health team; Life Education workshop, hand hygiene,
- Assemblies e.g. walking to school.
- Pupils who require more individualised support with PSHE may take part in interventions across the week such as ELSA, groups, gardening groups, friendship groups

Monitoring and Evaluation

Evaluation of the programme will be made by assessing, the attitudes of the pupils, the development of their personal skills and the knowledge and understanding they have gained. This could include:

- collecting examples of work;
- informal discussions with pupils, teachers and pupil voice groups
- observation of learning;
- monitoring with the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team of the school's ethos.

We promote the needs and interests of all pupils, irrespective of gender, culture, ability or aptitude by careful consideration of our pupils' knowledge and needs and through level of support in all PSHE lessons. Teaching will take into account the ability, age, readiness and cultural backgrounds of our young people, and those with English as a second language to ensure that all can access PSHE education provision. We promote social learning and expect our pupils to show a high regard for the needs of others by leading by example and using the 'ground rules' for each PSHE lesson effectively. We will use a wide variety of teaching and learning styles to meet the development needs of the children. We will use PSHE education as a vehicle to address diversity issues and to ensure equality for all through effective teaching of the PSHE curriculum (in particular, the 'Relationships' and 'Living in the Wider World' strands of the PSHE Program of Study).