



PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH AND ECONOMIC EDUCATION

Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) is delivered through the curriculum by the PSHE team. Contributions to teaching are also made by the wider school community including by the Science, Physical Education, ICT, RE and Technology departments in their curriculum time.

PSHE is taught as a discrete subject in Year 7, 8 and 9 and Year 10 and 11s are taught during the summer term as well as 'drop down' days and form time throughout the year. The lessons are tied into assemblies which will follow similar themes. Whilst all lessons and assemblies will be age appropriate they will all study the following six themes during the year:

Theme 1-Rights, Responsibilities and British Values

Theme 2-Celebrating Diversity and Equality

Theme 3-Relationships and Sex Education

Theme 4-Staying Safe, Online and Offline

Theme 5-Health and Wellbeing

Theme 6-Life beyond School

As part of their compulsory science curriculum, Year 7s cover a topic on 'cells and Reproduction' ; this includes looking at cellular structure, cellular division and sexual reproduction in plants and humans. The human reproduction topic covers the male and female reproductive systems, puberty and the menstrual cycle, fertilisation and pregnancy.

During Year 10 and 11 students look at growth and development and in particular at fertility treatments including IVF and cloning. The curriculum also looks at different forms of contraception, and as part of this touches on STIs.

Parents cannot withdraw students from this National Curriculum subject but have a right to withdraw from the sex education lessons within PSHE.

A school health nurse (Nurse Angie Hatt) is based within The Cooper School and is available from 9am till 3pm. The school health nurse is a specialist nurse and her role is to improve health outcomes. Student Support Managers are able to refer any young people with health concerns. Students are also able to self refer to this confidential service. The school health nurse is able to deal with physical and mental health issues and, under strict guidelines and protocols, give sexual health advice including contraception.

