

PSHE department

About us

The PSHE curriculum is designed as a spiral curriculum; with topics revisited across years 7 to 11 in an age appropriate manner allowing for students experiences and views to mature along with the topics visited. The PSHE curriculum is fully RSE compliant in line with the 2020 statutory guidelines and follows the PSHE Associations best practice guidelines.

Students are encouraged to approach each topic with an open mind and to share their valued viewpoints and varying experiences, although students are not forced to share their personal experiences. Students have the opportunity to practice their reading and oracy skills through debate and discussion. PSHE lessons are planned using student voice and are designed to respond to known and emerging safeguarding concerns.

Our lessons

Lessons follow a structured approach: Connect, I Do, We Do, You Do, and Independent Learning Zone. Students explore questions, investigate concepts, and develop critical thinking, fostering deeper understanding of the world around them through guided practice and independent exploration.

Areas for development

- Promoting a culture of resilience through the use of the ILZ
- Ensuring progress of all learners (including SEND and PP learners) by weaving the golden threads of the inclusive classroom strategy are in all lessons
- Reading for pleasure
- Building oracy skills through discussion and debate.

Our ambitious and inspiring curriculum for all

The KS3 curriculum begins with students exploring their place in the world; looking at how friendships can change and how to value their own inner voice and thoughts. In half term 2 KS3 students also study citizenship with a strong British Values focus.

The KS4 PSHE curriculum focusses on mature topics such as gangs and drug awareness, how to keep yourself and others safe, relationships safety, relationships and sex education, first aid, cohesive relationships.

In half term 2, year 9 and 10 students also study citizenship with a strong British Values focus.

Year 11 students have a focus on next steps post secondary and revision skills.

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Our curriculum intent

Our goal at ASA is to have students leave who are functionally literate and able to decode the world around them. We hope to foster their skills of comprehension, critical thinking and reasoning through our curriculum.

Marking and feedback

Students receive regular teacher feedback on work in lesson and formal marking of assessment work occurs once per half term.

Quality assurance

Lessons are centrally planned by the PSHE lead and undergo robust QA through the department leaders. Each unit is reflected upon, evaluated and revisited every year.

Curriculum enrichment

The department regularly hosts enrichment opportunities ranging from visits from local charities to raise awareness around CSE/CCE (child sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation), drug awareness and gender specific workshops designed to promote equality and respect between these of different genders.

British Values and Protected Characteristics

Students will visit topics around the Equality Act 2010 and the Protected characteristics as well as the focus on our fundamental British values throughout the PSHE curriculum and pastoral sessions each week.

Misogyny, racism and homophobia

The PSHE curriculum is supplemented by pastoral sessions and assemblies to raise awareness and education around these topics and to ensure all pupils feel safe and secure at ASA.