

Personal Development Implementation at BCHS

The personal development curriculum at Blackburn Central High School covers the following areas:

- Fundamental British Values and Citizenship education.
- Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural education.
- Personal, Social, Health and Economic education.
- Sex and Relationship education.
- The Heart Curriculum
- Careers Education.
- Living in the Wider World Education - Progress Time

Our school ethos is to provide every student with a caring, inclusive, and safe learning environment encouraging a culture of academic excellence and outstanding achievement in all aspects of our student's lives. The personal development curriculum is integral to this.

All our pupils are encouraged to take part in a wide range of activities and experiences across and beyond the curriculum, so that they can contribute fully to the life of the school and the wider community. In doing so, pupils learn to recognise their own worth, develop a sense of their own identity and the ability to take their place in the community as well as respect for, and working with, others. Thus, the Personal Development curriculum is delivered in a number of ways.

These include:

- All students receive a 30 minute Progress Time session each morning, this includes one assembly per week.
- Students in Year 7 and 8 enjoy one lesson per week on the Heart curriculum. This curriculum is continued in Y9 and 10 during Progress Time.
- Personal Development education is delivered across the curriculum, with all curriculum areas contributing, in a variety of ways, that are highlighted in their Schemes of Work.
- There are a wide variety of extra-curricular activities to choose from at BCHS. We have a tradition of trips, including museums, theaters, synagogues and heritage sites, which introduce our students to wide and varied experiences. We also have an extra-curricular sports programme.
- All students are given the opportunity to work on developing LORIC skills and can work towards the Edge Apprenticeship and Graduate awards.
- The school community regularly holds fundraising activities, led by students and supports a range of charities.
- Students take part in 6 PSHE lessons and 3 RSE lessons across the school year.
- Students are encouraged to reflect on their experiences and to recognise how they are developing personally and socially, addressing the spiritual, social, moral and cultural and health issues that form an intrinsic part of growing up.
- Students have the opportunity to work towards the Duke of Edinburgh award.

The Personal Development curriculum encourages students to learn more about themselves as growing and changing individuals. Students have the opportunity to acquire the knowledge, skills and understanding necessary to enable them to make informed decisions about all aspects of their lives, as they develop from children into young adults. Students will also learn to respect the views, needs and rights of others, including people of different genders, ages and cultures to themselves. Students have the opportunity to broaden, extend and challenge their knowledge,

values and skills to prepare them for life in modern Britain, with the aim of making students productive citizens.

Fundamental British Values and Citizenship

Within the Fundamental British Values aspects of the curriculum students are able to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England as well as accepting responsibility for their behaviour, showing initiative, and understanding how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely. Through this we embrace the following 4 strands integral to Fundamental British Values:

- Democracy.
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Citizenship is delivered across the curriculum. Students cover issues such as rights and responsibilities, discrimination and how they can contribute positively as active, caring citizens both in school and within the communities in which they live. They are also encouraged to respect democracy and support participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in Britain. Part of this process is the election and participation in the our Junior Leadership Team which meets fortnightly and are actively involved in many decisions about school life.

Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural

We recognise and firmly believe that the development of pupils, spiritually, morally, socially and culturally plays a significant part not only in their ability to learn and achieve but in their ability to relate fully to, and have the ability to, access the world they live in.

We aim to provide an education that provides children with opportunities to explore and develop their own values, whilst recognising that those of others may differ. Beliefs, spiritual awareness, high standards of personal behaviour including a positive caring attitude towards other people, an understanding of their social and cultural traditions and an appreciation of the diversity and richness of other cultures are all critical skills and dispositions that we nurture, encourage and develop through this subject and the wider curriculum. The values and ethos of Blackburn Central High School are central to our Personal Development education.

Personal, Social, Health and Economic and Sex and Relationship Education

The three main strands of this aspect are:

- Health and Wellbeing
- Relationships
- Living in the Wider World

The Personal Development programme includes work to improve students' health and emotional wellbeing. PSHE and SRE develop students' skills to manage relationships and be economically active and intend to give students the skills necessary to keep them safe, including keeping them safe in an ever changing virtual world. The main strands of this area of the programme are to promote pupils' health and wellbeing. This includes personal health, looking after their mental health and healthy living, including diet and drugs and alcohol abuse education.

The PSHE and RSE aspects of this programme are arranged to ensure that age appropriate delivery is achieved to prepare students for each phase of their life and education. The SRE

programme is delivered through a collaboration of the Personal Development Curriculum, the Religious Education Curriculum and the Science Curriculum.

Careers and Living in the Wider World

One of the key principles of the Personal Development Curriculum is that it enables pupils to acquire learning that will allow them to make their own choices in the real world.

At the forefront of the careers aspect of Personal Development is the implementation of the eight Gatsby benchmarks of Good Career Guidance:

1. A stable careers programme
2. Learning from career and labour market information
3. Addressing the need of each pupil
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experience of workplaces
7. Encounters with further and higher education
8. Personal guidance

Our aim at BCHS is to inspire confident learners who will thrive in a changing world. We want our students to aim high in their expectations, to raise their aspirations, promote equality of opportunity, celebrate diversity, challenge stereotypes and prepare for their future careers.

Personal Development education plays a critical role in preparing all young people for the next stage of their education or training and beyond. Expectations are high, including for our most vulnerable and those with special educational needs and disabilities. Students are challenged appropriately and acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes for lifelong learning so that they become more adaptable and resilient, make decisions and transitions, be more enterprising and be able to present themselves well with applications and interviews. This will help every young person to realise their potential and enhance their employability.

Personal Development Education equips students with the knowledge, skills and attributes that they need to make informed decisions about their learning and work through a cohesive programme of careers education. They are supported in their journey with access to personalised information, advice and guidance from 6th Form colleges which will enable them to build up the confidence to take charge of their career development and effectively manage their own progression through learning and work. They also have opportunities to consider and prepare for a variety of employment options, for example, through work based learning, mock interviews and a range of Enrichment activities.