



Baston House School

PSHE and Citizenship Policy and Curriculum

Ethos

Baston House School is an Independent school for primary and secondary pupils with statements of need within the Autism Spectrum. Pupils may encounter barriers to learning within speech, language, social communication, social interaction, social imagination and sensory differences; all specific features of Autism.

Our goal is to break down the barriers to learning that our students encounter and to help them to equip themselves for as independent a life as possible outside of school.

Our approach is based on an eclectic fusion of child-centred and autism-specific strategies and techniques, with a clear focus on improving communication and interaction skills through positive interventions.

Staffs at Baston House School have a positive, 'can do' attitude and use solution focused approaches to create a no blame culture. Staff seek to understand how the Triad of Specific Features (Wing 2010) impact upon the developmental needs of our students and therefore enable them to develop appropriate strategies, which capitalise on their strengths. Our core values of respect, caring, listening, fairness, trust, cooperation and consistency define our ethos, which gives this policy a solid foundation for enabling the development of our pupils.

PSHE and Citizenship Education are key areas of the curriculum where many issues, related to the Triad of Specific Features can be addressed.

Rationale

This policy has been written to ensure we are meeting the requirements of National Curriculum 2000, which includes a non-statutory framework for Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Citizenship at KS1 and 2, and also takes into account further guidance issued by QCA in 2002 and incorporates SEAL materials and Every Child Matters guidance (2004).

Curriculum 2000 states two broad aims for the school curriculum,

*“To provide opportunities for all pupils to learn and achieve;
To promote children’s spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
and prepare all pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and
experiences of life.”*

The National Curriculum Handbook for Primary teachers in
England. (1999) DFE

These two aims reinforce each other; the personal development of
pupils, spiritually, morally, socially and culturally, plays a significant
part in their ability to learn and achieve. Development in both areas
is essential to raising standards for all pupils

This policy links closely with school policies on:

- Sex and Relationships Education
- Science
- Behaviour
- Bullying
- Equal Opportunities

What is PSHE?

PSHE encompasses all areas designed to promote children’s personal,
social and health development. It gives children the knowledge, skills and
understanding that they need to stay healthy and safe, develop
worthwhile relationships, respect differences, develop independence and
responsibility, and make the most of their own abilities and those of
others. It is very closely linked with the five desired outcomes of Every
Child Matters and encompasses our work within Citizenship and S.E.A.L.

The Framework for PSHE

The knowledge, skills and understanding to be taught in 4 interrelated
sections:

1. Developing confidence and responsibility and making the most of
pupils’ abilities.
2. Preparing to play an active role as citizens.
3. Developing a healthy, safer lifestyle.
4. Developing good relationships and respecting the differences between
people.

What is Citizenship education?

There are 3 interrelated strands in the framework: -

- Social and moral responsibility
- Community involvement
- Political literacy

These should be taught to prepare children to play an active role as members of a democratic society, to develop independence and responsibility, and to make informed choices about their own lifestyle.

What is S.E.A.L.?

SEAL is a teaching program (social and emotional aspects of learning) which will help the children in their personal, social and emotional development. It will bring together work we have been teaching in our PSHE curriculum and each term we will teach a topic across the whole school. These topics will be

- New Beginnings- Sept/ Oct
- Getting on and Falling out- Nov/ Dec
- Going for Goals - Jan/ Feb
- Good to be Me - Feb/Mar
- Relationships -Apr/ May
- Changes - June/ July

There will also be another topic taught during the school year called Say No to Bullying.

SEAL will help children to develop self-awareness, motivation, social skills and managing their feelings. These skills will help our children to become better learners, get on better with other people and be responsible citizens. They are part of every area of life.

Our ethos and PSHE curriculum ensure that we meet the 5 strands of Every Child Matters which states that every child has the right to: Be Healthy, Stay Safe, Enjoy and Achieve, Make a Positive Contribution, and Achieve Economic Well-being.

Aims of PSHE and Citizenship Education

Our school mission statement reflects what we hope to achieve in PSHE and Citizenship. We want our children to develop self-awareness, positive self-esteem and confidence, enabling them to,

- stay as healthy as possible
- keep themselves and others safe
- have worthwhile and fulfilling relationships
- respect the differences between people
- develop independence and responsibility
- play an active role as members of a democratic society
- make the most of their own abilities and those of others
- behave in a socially and morally acceptable way including towards authority and each other
- to become involved in the life of their community
- to know about democracy and how to be an active citizens
- to know about economic wellbeing.

We want our children to: -

- value the achievements they make, and the achievements of others
- make informed choices about dealing with risks and meeting challenges now and in the future.
- decide on values by which they want to live their lives.

Our school curriculum and ethos promotes spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and prepares all pupils for the opportunities and responsibilities within their lives.

Curriculum content

Our programme for PSHE and Citizenship encompasses SEAL materials for each year group with planning adapted to meet the needs of the children in those year groups. Aspects of PSHE and Citizenship will also be covered in RE, Science, Drama and Technology as appropriate.

Delivery of Curriculum

A range of teaching strategies will be used as appropriate. These will include:

Circle time, role-play, discussion § whole class, small group, 1:1, visitors e.g. PC , Fire Brigade, School Health Advisor etc., stories e.g. exploring behaviour of characters, creative activities, and pupil initiated activities.

Our pupils' are likely to show strengths in visual learning and to have particular difficulties and differences concerning social communication and social interaction. Teaching approaches will be focussed on capitalising on likely visual strengths and on improving skills in the areas of social

difficulty. The role of the Speech & Language Therapy team will be crucial and integral to planning and delivery of the curriculum.

There are weekly timetabled SEAL lessons in KS1 and KS2, these working alongside specific events and activities, as well as through other subjects. There will also be opportunities during storytelling and listening times, discussion and group/school assemblies.

Teachers will choose the methods of delivery, most appropriate for individuals and their whole class to meet the objectives of the lesson. All classes use circle time to promote and discuss issues within PSHE and Citizenship, and where appropriate we follow the Quality Circle Time model.

Cross Curricular links

Links are made with PSHE and Citizenship in other curriculum areas as appropriate e.g. R.E., P.E., science, geography and in topic planning. Also in whole school events such as Enterprise Week, All About Me week, etc.

Assessment

Children's understanding, knowledge and skills are assessed through observation, discussion and questioning and participation in groups. There will be an annual written assessment based on QCA end of Key Stage Statements, which will assess knowledge, skills or understanding across the whole school. The PSHE lead will devise the tasks and will assess them to ensure continuity. Children will be involved in self-assessment e.g. talking about their own experiences, making comments in SEAL record book in each classroom and in special assemblies celebrating achievement.

Teachers will be able to discuss progress made by their pupils. Pupils will use self assessments and peer assessments where appropriate. General comments about PSHE and Citizenship will be included in annual reports to parents, and children will write their own comments about how they have done.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Planning and samples of work, including photographs and records of questioning of children, will be collected by the Teaching Assistants on a termly basis and be kept in the PSHE and Citizenship portfolio. The portfolio will also include input by pupils. Teachers' and pupils' thoughts are included in the SEAL class book and celebrated in half-term SEAL assembly. The Senior Management Team will monitor and review the policy annually.

Equal Opportunities

Provision for PSHE and Citizenship are in line with all of our policies and Every Child Matters guidance. All children have equal access to the PSHE and Citizenship curriculum and developmentally appropriate materials. Delivery will be differentiated appropriately. Resources etc. are sensitive to

the needs and backgrounds of the children and will not reflect gender or cultural stereotypes, and are monitored annually to ensure that sensitivity.

Parental and Community Involvement

Parents are invited to join in events in school, including class and SEAL assemblies and workshops on relevant themes. Working with parents is a vital part of the whole school approach to PSHE and Citizenship

There will also be links with local businesses and councillors, as part of the work in Citizenship. We involve outside agencies e.g. School Health Advisors, School Police liaison officer, dental health advisors etc. as much as possible to deliver aspects of the curriculum.

This school believes that partnership with parents and the community enables us to receive specialist support and information to plan the best possible PSHE and Citizenship curriculum for our children.

Autumn 2010.

For review Autumn 2011.