



## PSHE & SMSC POLICY

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### Record of Alterations

Version 1.0	Original
Version 1.1	None
Version 1.2	None

Approved by Chris Sellers  
September 2024



## **Aims**

A consideration for others, and an understanding of the world around us (its different religions and cultures) is central to all that we do at The Mount School. As well as this, it has always been the case that children have been encouraged to express their opinions, and to know that their thoughts and feelings will be heard and respected. Our aim is that our children should become confident young people, and our belief is that this can only come from creating a happy environment and happy children. Pupils are given opportunities, responsibilities and experiences to help them prepare for later life. The school promotes spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school. We actively promote Fundamental British Values such as how our democratic process works, that the rule of the law is there to protect citizens and how our Police and Armed Forces are there to protect us.

## **School Aims**

Aim 1: Our children are happy and become resilient and reflective learners: academically, socially, physically, spiritually and mentally.

Aim 2: Develop in each child independence, commitment and enthusiasm.

Aim 3: Foster a spirit of mutual respect and kindness and encourage everyone to do their best for the community.

Our school's aims will be clearly evidenced through this policy.

## **Assemblies**

Assemblies are central to our week and usually begin by listening to some music and then there is a presentation by a member of staff. This can take the form of a short talk, with a moral point or through some role play situations enacted by pupils. Outside visitors may be invited to come and talk to the children about a charity or other current points of interest in the school. The PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Economic Education) assemblies (which follow the Jigsaw Curriculum Map) are based on different values such as kindness, courage, friendship or diversity. We cover Fundamental British Values in our assemblies.

## **Outside Speakers**

The School invites outside agencies to visit and give talks to different groups within the School on a variety of important issues. All outside speakers are risk assessed to ensure the content of their presentation is in line with the current Prevent strategy.

## **PSHE JIGSAW Curriculum Map**

The Mount School uses the JIGSAW PSHE whole school spiral programme in order to provide a wholesome approach to the delivery of PSHE/RSHE. This programme is taught from Kindergarten through to Form VI.

'The JIGSAW approach to PSHE/RSHE, brings together Personal, Social, Health Education, emotional literacy, social skills and spiritual development in a comprehensive scheme of learning. Teaching strategies are varied and are mindful of a preferred learning style. Jigsaw provides a structured programme of personal development to nurture the 'whole child' and increase learning capacity, underpinned by mindfulness philosophy and practice. SMSC (Spiritual, moral, social and cultural)

development is clearly mapped and balanced across each year group. There are five main emotional literacy skills - self-awareness, social skills, empathy, motivation and managing feelings. These are vital for a pupil's development, their understanding of themselves and others and increasing their capacity to learn'.

Jigsaw, the mindful approach to PSHE, when taught well, covers all the statutory requirements within a whole-school PSHE/RSHE Programme, spiralling the learning in an age-appropriate way and adopting a whole school approach for ages 3-11.

## **PSHE main areas of study**

The three main statutory areas of study

- Health and Well-Being
- Relationships
- Living in the wider world

JIGSAW 5 areas of emotional literacy

- self-awareness
- social skills
- empathy
- motivation
- managing feelings

An up to date JIGSAW curriculum map ensures that the following areas are included within our planning and delivery of PSHE; Global Learning, Fundamental British Values, Mental Health, PSHE Association, RSHE (England) SEND + Autism, SMSC/Emotional Literacy and UNCRC (The United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child)

Please find the **Jigsaw Curriculum Map** [HERE](#)

(The school website login details may be required)

Areas of study fall under 6 headings which are delivered to the whole school on a termly basis;

- Being in my world
- Celebrating difference
- Dreams and goals
- Healthy me
- Relationships
- Changing me

## **Assessment in PSHE**

Assessing children's learning is vital to inform their next steps. A full assessment process is embedded in the Jigsaw program including a set of attainment descriptors for every year group and assessment activities to involve children in the process across the school. Kindergarten are not required to assess their PSHE work.

**Using the Jigsaw curriculum map, The Mount School offers age appropriate guidance on:**

- Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco education
- Careers education
- Financial and Economic education
- RSE (Sex and Relationship education)
- Citizenship
- Identity
- Diversity and Friendship
- Democracy
- Revision and Study Skills advice

### **Topic studies**

Through History, Geography, RE and PSHE topic studies, the children can learn about lives that are very different from their own, and more about the world, both past and present. They will learn about Economic education and respect for other people, with particular regard to protected characteristics.

### **Mental Health and Wellbeing**

The Mount School implements Mental Health and Wellbeing within the PSHE programme in line with the September 2020 requirements. Jigsaw PSHE guarantees a PSHE education that covers most aspects of mental health, wellbeing and physical health (including healthy lifestyles and first aid).

### **SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural) Development**

The Mount School is mindful of its responsibility to actively promote the Fundamental British Values (FBV) of:

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

By so doing, The Mount School believes that the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our pupils is catered for, alongside ensuring that pupils are enabled to:

### **Development of self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence:**

- The Mount School celebrates the achievements of all our children, individually and as part of a team.
- The Mount School staff are proud to act as role-models for our children and to encourage them to be the best that they can be.
- The Mount School provides many opportunities for children to develop these qualities.

### **Examples include:**

- Pupil involvement in Assemblies

- Concerts/Solos in Assembly and Creative Workshops
- Year group performances
- Every child has the opportunity to represent The Mount School in a sports team in KS2.
- Achievements outside the classroom/ school are also celebrated. Presentations for achievements outside of school are often made in Assembly.
- Whole School Performances

**Distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England:**

- The Mount School children are supported as they learn to make this important distinction, and are encouraged to understand that living in England comes with the responsibility to abide by the law.

**Accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative and understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in Kirklees and to society more widely:**

- The Mount School supports this principle by promoting and celebrating the value of community service, such as Student Council, Eco Council and other positions of responsibility.
- The Mount School actively supports a number of charities each year, some of which are local and others are further afield.

**Acquire a broad general knowledge of, and respect for, public institutions and services in England:**

- The Mount School children experience, through the Jigsaw PSHE curriculum and visiting speakers, the roles and responsibilities of other professions related to public institutions such as health care professionals and emergency service professionals.

**Demonstrate tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling pupils to acquire an appreciation of, and respect for, their own and other cultures:**

- The Mount School has a diverse community which celebrates children from every race, colour and creed and every combination of the same.
- Our PSHE programme thoroughly supports this valued part of our ethos.
- The Mount School welcomes international pupils.

**Develop and show respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic process, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England:**

- Democracy is alive and well at The Mount School and our children experience it in an age appropriate fashion when voting for the The Head Boy and Head Girl, The School Council and Eco Council.

- Through our PSHE programme, The Mount School children gain an understanding of the role of the Armed Forces and the emergency services.
- Tolerance of all faiths and faiths different from one's own, forms the bedrock of our RS curriculum.
- Pupils in KS2 have access to a Debating Club, allowing them the opportunity to understand differing points of view and vote on the outcome of a debate.

**In addition, The Mount School aims for all our children to:**

- Show respect for other people, paying particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010.

The Mount School is a community of children and adults from different races, colours and creeds and combinations of the same. We believe that we are stronger as a result of our diversity, which makes The Mount School a very special place to be. We take very seriously our responsibility to ensure that every member of our community is valued in an atmosphere of mutual respect and tolerance, and we are proud of the ways in which we understand and celebrate our differences. With the Prevent strategy in mind, The Mount School actively promotes Fundamental British Values through the curriculum, assemblies and other activities, as well as through the expected behaviour of pupils and staff. They are embedded in the ethos of the school.

Additionally, our teaching must not discriminate against pupils contrary to the **Equality Act 2010**, that is, on the basis of the protected characteristics. The protected characteristics are listed as follows:

**PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS - Equality Act 2010**

- age
- disability
- gender reassignment
- marriage and civil partnership
- pregnancy and maternity
- race
- religion and belief
- sex
- sexual orientation

**The Mount School's PSHE curriculum is designed to:**

- enable all members of our community to develop their self-knowledge,
- raise self-esteem and self-confidence through PRAs (Personal Records of Achievement).
- enable pupils to distinguish between right and wrong, and to accept responsibility for their own behaviour, as detailed in the Behaviour Policy.
- promote tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling pupils to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures.
- encourage respect for other people and foster respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic process in England.

- effectively prepare our pupils for British life by developing a range of character attributes that underpin success in the community.

## **ACTIVE PROMOTION OF VALUES AND PRINCIPLES**

The Mount School understands its responsibility to actively promote:

### Fundamental British Values

- Democracy
- Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

The following principles are actively promoted:

- To enable pupils to develop their self-confidence, self-knowledge and self-worth
- To enable pupils to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England
- To encourage pupils to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative and understand how they can contribute positively to those living and working in the locality in which the school is situated and to society more widely
- To enable pupils to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England
- To further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling pupils to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures
- To encourage respect for other people, paying particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the 2010 Act
- To encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic process, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England

## **THE FUNDAMENTAL BRITISH VALUES**

### **The Principles**

- To achieve this at The Mount School, we strive to promote the following concepts.

### **Democracy**

- All children participate in the democratic process when voting for positions of responsibility.
- The principle of Democracy is also explored in an age appropriate fashion in History and RE lessons across the school, as well as in Assemblies.
- Decisions are made by majority voting which reflects accurately one of the cornerstones of British culture.

### **The rule of law**

- All our children are encouraged to explore and to devise laws which govern their behaviour both within the classroom and also in the wider community.
- Children are encouraged to explore the values and expectations behind the laws which govern and protect the UK.
- Our PSHE curriculum covers a variety of aspects including rights & responsibilities, drugs awareness and how to keep yourself safe.
- All year groups participate in a range of transition activities that develop their life skills, awareness of dangers within society and keeping themselves safe, prior to moving on to senior school.

### **Individual liberty**

- All our children are treated as individuals at The Mount School, and are encouraged to acknowledge and exercise their rights and freedoms as well as those of others.
- The Mount School strives to provide an environment in which all members of our community can voice their opinions in a safe environment and one in which they can enjoy respect.
- The Mount School has robust Behaviour and Anti-Bullying policies, thus supporting and actively promoting the concept of individual liberty, thereby ensuring that all members of our community are able to develop their abilities and appreciate the importance of informed decisions and the consequences of their actions.

### **Mutual respect**

- The Mount School strives to ensure that all members of our community appreciate the effect that their actions may have on themselves and on others. To this end, mutual respect features strongly in our school aims and in our ethos.
- Discriminatory or extremist opinions or behaviours are challenged as a matter of routine.

### **Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs**

- All members of our community benefit from the richness which different faiths, colours, races and creeds bring to the school, thereby developing a better understanding of how to take their place in a culturally diverse society in the United Kingdom.
- PSHE and the Assembly themes all serve to support this aim and contribute positively to the SMSC experience our children enjoy.

### **In approaching the subject of Fundamental British Values, The Mount School is mindful of guidance issued by the DfE which includes:**

- An understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process
- An appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their well-being and safety



- An understanding that there is a separation of power between the executive and the judiciary, and that while some public bodies such as the police and the army can be held to account through Parliament, others such as the courts maintain independence
- An understanding that the freedom to hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law
- An acceptance that people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated, and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour
- An understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

The Mount School discourages the promotion of partisan political views in the teaching of any subject, and will take such steps as are reasonably practicable to ensure, that where political issues are brought to the attention of pupils, they are offered a balanced presentation of opposing views, while they are in attendance at the school or taking part in extracurricular activities which are provided or organised by or on behalf of the school (taking place at school or elsewhere).

The Mount School understands it has the legal responsibility to comply with the regulatory requirements, and acknowledges its duty to ensure the effective monitoring and evaluation of policies and procedures takes place in a timely and regular manner.

### **The Mount School's Role in the Prevention of Political Indoctrination**

'Prevent duty' with regard to radicalization and extremism, and its reporting:

- The School must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to prevent members of staff and pupils from being drawn into terrorism.
- Extremism is vocal or active opposition to fundamental British Values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.
- Schools can build pupils' resilience to radicalisation by providing a safe environment for debating controversial issues and helping them understand how they can influence and participate in decision making.
- Indicators of radicalisation may include:
  - a. disclosures by pupils of their exposure to extremist actions.
  - b. graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images.
  - c. pupils accessing extremist material online, including through social media.
  - d. parental reports of changes in behaviour.
  - e. pupils voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives.
  - f. use of extremist or 'hate' terms to exclude others or incite violence.
  - g. intolerance of difference, whether secular or religious or, in line with the school's equal opportunities policy.

- h. attempts to impose extremist views or practises on others.
- i. anti-Western or anti-British views.

We believe that The Mount School is, and must always be, a safe space in which children and young people can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and the extremist ideas that are part of the terrorist ideology and learn how to challenge these ideas. The Mount School works hard to ensure that our pupils are taught in a way that is consistent with the law and British values, and which challenges discriminatory and extremist opinions or behaviours as a matter of course.