PSHE at Burton Manor FAQs

What is PSHE?

PSHE stands for Personal, Social, Health Economics education.

How often do pupils do PSHE?

Once a week for an hour.

When do pupils start to learn about PSHE?

Pupils start PSHE lessons in Reception class and they continue all the way to Year 6. A big part of Nursery and Reception is personal, social and emotional development learnt through play.

Who teaches PSHE?

A teacher or a familiar member of staff.

What do pupils learn about in PSHE lessons?

We mostly use the Kapow scheme of work, adapted to meet the needs of our pupils.

Pupils follow 6 units of work over the source of the year: My Healthy Self, Connecting With Others, The Online World, Staying Safe, Health Protection, Citizenship and Growing Up and optional units in Y6 – Sex Education and First Aid.

Why do pupils learn about PSHE?

PSHE comes under RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) which has been statutory since 2020.

The Department for Education (DfE) considers PSHE education ‘an important and necessary part of all pupils’ education and says that the ‘All schools should teach PSHE’. Section 2.5 of the national curriculum also states that all state schools ‘should make provision for personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE), drawing on good practice'.

Our PSHE scheme teaches pupils to stay safe in a range of contexts, teaches them how to keep their bodies and minds healthy, teaches them about relationships, good and bad and how to handle different situations, and they learn about how to handle different changes they might face as they grow up. They also learn about other people, local and around the world and how to compare their lives with others and how to have respect and empathy for others.

Do pupils learn about puberty and sex education?

Pupils learn about how their bodies change, in the unit Changing Me (see a detailed breakdown using the links in the PSHE section of our website). They learn age appropriate content which progresses every year from Reception to Year 6.

This is statutory guidance taken from the document: Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex education and Health education:

‘It is important that the transition phase before moving to secondary school supports pupils’ ongoing emotional and physical development effectively. The Department continues to recommend therefore that all primary schools should have a sex education programme tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the pupils. It should ensure that both boys and girls are prepared for the changes that adolescence brings and – drawing on knowledge of the human life cycle set out in the national curriculum for science - how a baby is conceived and born.’

Our puberty and sex education lessons are in addition to the statutory content of the Science curriculum which also covers these topics.

Can I withdraw my child from puberty and sex education lessons?

The statutory guidance is that pupils should learn about puberty and the human life cycle before they go to high school, therefore pupils can not be withdrawn from these lessons. They will also cover it in Science so again they can not withdraw from these lessons.

Pupils can be withdrawn from the sex education part of any lessons. Parents may request to withdraw their child from the optional, non-statutory Year 6 Sex education unit How do people become parents and carers? Parents will be informed of this in advance and given the chance to opt their child out.

Our overview of coverage can be found on our school website in the PSHE curriculum area if you would like to view in more detail what will be covered in each year group.

If you have any concerns, you are welcome to talk to a class teacher, Mrs Marchant (PSHE lead) or Miss Elliman and we can share the content with you in advance. We are confident that our scheme has been adapted to meet the needs of our pupils and is age appropriate.

Can I withdraw my child from other aspects of the PSHE curriculum?

Parents do not have the right to withdraw their child from the following statutory components:

- Relationships education.
- Health education.
- Science lessons, including learning about puberty or human reproduction taught through Science.
- Any other PSHE content the school has chosen to include, such as citizenship or financial literacy.

Do you have a PSHE policy?

Yes, it is available to view in the PSHE section of our website.

Do you do trips/have visitors linked to PSHE?

We are very keen for pupils to have experiences that will enhance their learning so we do have visitors in from time to time to support that. All visitors are consulted with and content is agreed beforehand to ensure appropriateness/suitability for our pupils.

How can parents find out more about the Kapow scheme of work?

More information can be found on the Kapow website via this link: https://www.kapowprimary.com/subjects/rse-pshe/curriculum/rse-pshe-parent-information/

Parents have the right to view materials and lessons. Parents should request this via an email to Mrs Marchant through the following email address: year56@burtonmanor.staffs.sch.uk
A link to specific lessons can then be sent for parents to access on the Kapow website.