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| Subject | PSHE |
| Subject Leader | Colette Verry |

Relationships and health education guidelines

New guidelines for relationship and health education in primary schools will be statutory from September 2021. St John's has been an 'early adopter' of the guidelines since September 2019. Since the last report, I have taken part in training, research and resource activities with the Department for Education relating to the implementation of the guidelines. Following amendment of our PSHE policy and SRE policy to reflect the new guidelines, all parents were given the opportunity to comment on the policy in 2020. A parent forum also took place in school where new materials were shared.

Teaching and Learning

All teachers have received further training on the updated schemes of work and new guidelines. Following staff feedback, a focus of this training was on mental health and LGBT. PSHE remains a timetabled afternoon lesson throughout the school as well as being part of other initiatives. The PSHE lessons remain accessible for all children as a range of approaches have been used this year, for example, performance in assembly, outdoor learning, games, role play, discussion, song, dance, drama, art and team work. Teaching and support staff have continued to raise the profile of maintaining good mental health during the first lockdown and on return to school.

Highlights

During the two lockdowns, online learning provision included weekly PSHE activities to promote wellbeing with a range of outdoor/non-screen work. On return to school, there was a focus on the wellbeing and recovery of pupils allowing more time for children to share their experiences and building in mindfulness activities. Despite Covid restrictions, our annual whole school Safety Week took place last autumn. A key component of that – bikeability for Year 6 – couldn't take place then but has been completed at the earliest opportunity in June this year. The latest quality-assured materials, such as NSPCC 'Speak Out' and CEOP's ThinkUknow. were used throughout Safety Week to develop children's understanding of safety issues. Year 5 had begun a 'Junior Warden Scheme' (pictured above) to find out more about issues important to their local community such as speeding and vandalism as well as how to make a difference themselves. This has temporarily been suspended due to Covid restrictions but we intend to continue with this valuable collaboration as soon as is possible. Cross curricular links continue to be exploited across school. A wildlife corridor was designed and planted by the whole school (pictured left) and then used for PSHE - developing the children's understanding of stewardship of the planet; science – living things and plants; and geography - climate change. Year 4 has successfully participated in the Schools Linking Programme albeit remotely. It has still given the children the opportunity to share work with their peers at Parkinson Lane School about similarities and differences as well as tolerance and understanding. They then took part in class discussions and presented an assembly to the rest of the school on what they had learnt about prejudice and equality.



Areas for Future Development

- Integrate West Yorkshire Police initiative 'Pol Ed' termly lessons into PSHE programme to further enhance the children's opportunities to consider their role and safety in the wider world. Lessons focus on safeguarding issues such as respectful relationships, crime prevention and building an understanding of resilience, peer to peer support and where to access help if needed. We have expressed an interest in taking part in a research project at Sheffield Hallam University to evaluate the long-term impact on the children's attitudes and behaviour.
- Teaching assistants are used for valuable PSHE activities such as 'Talk Time' - a very useful tool to help children who are experiencing a range of emotional challenges. There are a number of children who could benefit from this but there is very limited availability of teaching assistants to undertake this work.