



# **PSHE and Citizenship Policy at Newnham Croft**

**April 2025**

## **1. Introduction**

This document provides information on the teaching of Personal, Social, Health Education and Citizenship at Newnham Croft Primary School.

We believe that Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Citizenship provides the foundation through which all our children are able to flourish. It provides pupils with the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to lead confident, healthy, independent lives and to become informed, active, responsible citizens. Through the teaching of PSHE we help work towards the school vision of helping every child find the confidence, self-belief and resilience that will enable them to explore, value and appreciate the world.

At Newnham Croft, we encourage pupils to take part in a wide range of activities and experiences across and beyond the curriculum, contributing fully to the life of their school and communities. In doing so they learn to recognise their own worth, work well with others and become increasingly responsible for their own learning. They reflect on their experiences and understand how they are developing personally and socially, tackling many of the spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues that are part of growing up. We seek to support children in finding out about the main political and social institutions that affect their lives and about their responsibilities, rights and duties as individuals and members of communities. They learn to understand and respect our common humanity, diversity and differences so that they can go on to form the effective, fulfilling relationships that are an essential part of life and learning.

## **2. Aims and Objectives**

- We believe that the education in PSHE and Citizenship enables children to become healthier, more independent and more responsible members of society.
- We teach pupils about their rights and about their responsibilities.
- We encourage our pupils to play a positive role in contributing to the life of the school and the wider community. In doing so, we help to develop their sense of self-worth.
- We teach pupils how society is organised and governed.

- We ensure that pupils experience the process of democracy through participation in the School Council, the Eco Committee and through class discussions.

Pupils learn to appreciate what it means to be a positive member of a diverse and multi-cultural society. The teaching of PSHE and Citizenship helps in many ways to meet the objectives set out in the Children's Act 2004 (Every Child Matters) – 'that is to be healthy, stay safe, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution, and achieve economic well-being'.

At Newnham Croft, we strive to develop the children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Our objectives in the teaching of PSHE and Citizenship are for all our pupils:

- To know and understand what is meant by a healthy lifestyle
- To be aware of safety issues
- To understand what makes a good relationship with others
- To have respect for others
- To be thoughtful and responsible members of their community and their school
- To become active members of a democratic society
- To develop self-confidence and self-esteem
- To make informed choices regarding personal and social issues
- To develop good relationships with other members of the community

### **3. Teaching and Learning Styles**

- We use a range of teaching and learning styles to deliver the PSHE and Citizenship curriculum. We emphasise active learning by including pupils in discussions, investigations, drama, stories, group work and problem solving activities.
- We encourage pupils to take part in a range of tasks that promote active citizenship, eg. charity fundraising, the planning of special school events (such as assemblies and performances) or involvement in helping other individuals or groups less fortunate than themselves.
- We organise classes in such a way that pupils are able, through discussion, to set agreed classroom standards of behaviour, and resolve any conflicts.
- We offer pupils the opportunity to hear visiting speakers, such as health workers, police, ambulance crew and local faith groups, whom we invite into the School to talk about their role in creating a positive and supportive local community.

### **4. PSHE and Citizenship Curriculum Planning**

We teach PSHE and Citizenship in a variety of ways.

- As a separate subject

e.g. When dealing with issues in drugs education or conflict with relationships, we teach PSHE and Citizenship as a discrete subject.

- Linked with other subjects

When introducing PSHE and Citizenship topics through teaching in other subjects e.g. when teaching about local environmental issues in geography, we offer pupils the opportunity to find out who is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of local parks and cycle paths.

- School and Class Behaviour Models

When we are setting up class guidelines for behaviour, all pupils are involved and agree on the rules for the class. These are clearly displayed and consistently applied to create a happy, purposeful learning environment. Where there are issues, these are generally addressed individually, but sometimes whole class teaching on an issue is beneficial e.g. when a group of pupils are falling out and need to understand how to restore relationships.

- Discussions in class and School Council

We develop PSHE and Citizenship through various activities and whole school events, e.g. the School Council representatives from each class meet regularly to discuss school matters. The School is committed to providing a setting where pupils learn how to make responsible choices. The personal and social development of young people is the responsibility of all.

- Whole School Assemblies

Through our collective worship, PSHE themes are explored as part of our school ethos and values education. These are based on values such as Respect, Integrity, Forgiveness etc.

## **5. The Foundation Stage**

We teach PSHE and Citizenship in our Foundation Stage Unit as an integral part of our topic work. Our teaching in PSHE and Citizenship matches the aim of developing a pupil's personal, emotional and social development as set out in the Early Years Framework. We also support citizenship education in the Foundation Stage, when we teach 'how to develop a child's knowledge and understanding of the world'.

## **6. PSHE and Citizenship and Equal Opportunities**

We teach PSHE and Citizenship to all pupils, regardless of their ability. Our teachers provide opportunities matched to individual needs of the pupils with learning difficulties. Intervention through Booster groups and Support Plans will lead to the creation of an Individual 'Assess, plan, Do, Review (APDR) plans. When teaching PSHE and Citizenship, teachers take into account the targets set for pupils in their APDRs, some of which targets may be directly related to PSHE and citizenship targets. There are programmes for groups of pupils to develop social skills, which will benefit pupils in their interaction and communication with others.

We also provide additional opportunities for all pupils to take responsibility, develop leadership skills, think creatively and use their talents for the good of the class or the wider community.

## **7. Assessment For Learning**

During lessons we informally assess the children, making judgements through their contributions to speaking and listening and through written responses. We are also able to gauge their understanding through watching them in and out of the classroom: for example, how they play, deal with conflict, respect and have empathy for others and take on responsibilities. The assessments that we make of pupil achievement are positive and we report on these to parents in annual school reports and at Parent Evenings.

## **8. Policies Linked to this Policy:**

Safeguarding and Child Protection

Anti- Bullying Policy

British Values Statement

Prevent Duty

RSE Policy