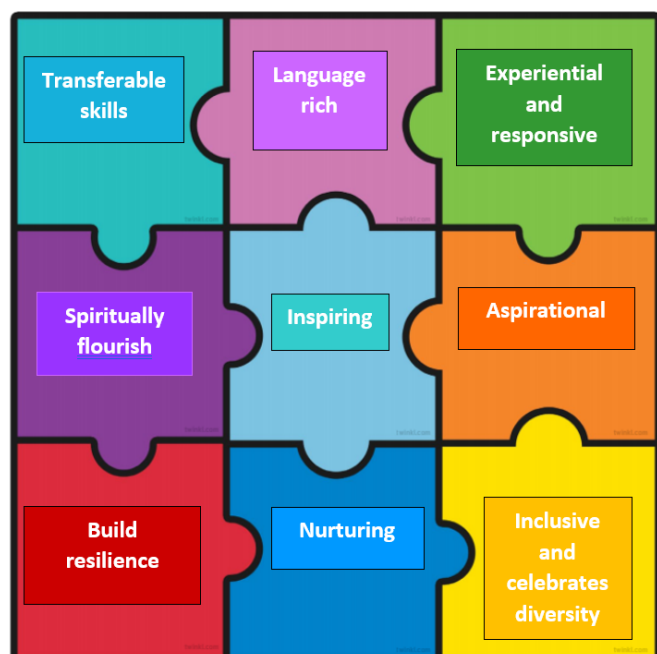


An Overview of the PSHE Curriculum at St Michael's



The Lord says, 'For I know the plans I have for you plans to give you hope and a future.'
Jeremiah 29 verse 11



PSHE at St Michael's is a way for children to engage with their own thoughts and feelings, as well as the feelings of others. We aim to promote positive physical and mental wellbeing in a variety of ways, inside and outside the classroom, teaching the correct and most appropriate emotional language to use.

Pupils will be able to discuss the impact of their actions on the world around them, to understand their responsibility to care for the world. We also build confidence and resilience in our children so that they feel they can challenge social injustice and inequality.

We aim to provide a safe and secure environment for children to express their own opinions so that they can become confident and inquisitive members of society. The curriculum focuses on engaging children with relevant real life experiences and teaching transferrable skills so that they can make reasoned and justified decisions throughout their lives.

Children are taught who is safe to talk to at the school and outside school and where they can go to feel safe and secure to talk about their feelings. We have pastoral staff available to discuss any difficulties children may be having. Our curriculum is responsive to the physical and mental wellbeing of our children and topics can be changed as different needs are identified. As a Church of England school, we also use worship and reflective times to discuss our actions and feelings linked to those of people in the Bible.

PSHE is delivered as a discrete subject once a week. There is a clear progression of learning. Wherever possible and beneficial to learning, cross curricular links are made. The curriculum has the flexibility to be adapted to incorporate current affairs or important calendar events. PSHE is also delivered through focused themed days/weeks such as Internet Safety week, Celebrating Differences Day, Money week and Black History Week. We are always led by the needs of the children in our school and our local community. Lessons are inclusive and children are encouraged to share any knowledge and experiences that they have of topics being taught.

Children learn a range of life skills such as good personal hygiene, healthy lifestyles, how to be safe (physically and online) and how to build strong and positive relationships with family and peers. They learn to manage their own finances and be able to look after their own mental health. Children take part in a range of activities which focus on their individual wellbeing and their environment. This is delivered in part through the Calmbrain programme which establishes a calm and stimulating environment. It is delivered at different points through the day as deemed necessary by the class teacher.

Children will be encouraged to have discussions about key topics and benefit from visitors/staff experience to help them understand their feelings about a subject. PSHE is taught using an active and collaborative approach, all children feel well supported to achieve whilst developing independence for their own learning. Children discuss scenarios and use problem solving to find answers to real-life questions and issues, ensuring that they will have the correct tools to address these as they experience them in their future lives.

We measure the impact of our curriculum through formative assessment, which is carried out in each lesson in order to challenge and support specific children when needed. Summative assessment is carried out at the beginning and end of every topic to measure the children's understanding against the statutory assessment framework.

We know we have been successful when children are able to express their own feelings and emotions in a positive way, voice their opinions whilst considering the feelings of others around them and understand the impact their actions have on the world around them. They are interested in making a difference.

Children are able to explain how to keep safe at school and outside school and are able to show a clear understanding of key skills such as using money and living a healthy lifestyle. They are able to discuss ways to keep safe online and how to use technology appropriately.

Children take pride in their behaviour, friendships and relationships with peers and adults. They are excellent role models for younger children both in school and in the wider community. They communicate clearly and confidently and can work individually or as part of a group/team. They demonstrate high levels of engagement and creativity in lessons and demonstrate progression in the varied skills taught.

PSHE at St Michael's contributes to the spiritual flourishing of pupils through different worship and creativity opportunities. They can consider their own actions and feelings related to key events and people in the Bible.