Blue Coat PSHE newsletter – Autumn 1 2023

For further details please contact Miss S Clemo (head of RE and PSHE).

What is PSHE Education?

PSHE is an umbrella term for a whole range of different education topics that are grouped under the headings Personal, Social, Health, and Economic Education. These topics include themes such as personal finances, drugs and alcohol awareness, mental health and wellbeing, careers, online safety, and relationships and sex education (RSE)

PSHE provides children and young people with the skills and knowledge they need to live healthy lives in an ever-changing and diverse society.

How can I support my child's PSHE Education?

- Allowing your child to talk about PSHE topics at home can be a really good way for them to explore and contextualise some of the content.
- If you have time, research some of the areas you know are coming up in your child's PSHE programme, and anticipate any awkward questions.
- Be honest if you don't know the answer to a question.
 However, you can listen to your child and explore these areas further together.
- Sensitive conversations can be easier to have if you are not facing each other directly, so whilst driving or walking, for example.
- Ask open questions. For example, how is your friendship group at the moment?
- Listen and try not to lecture. They will ask for advice when they want it.

The PSHE programme at Blue Coat School

Pupils in years 7-10 have fortnightly PSHE lessons. PSHE classes are taken by a dedicated PSHE teacher to facilitate respectful and responsible discussions in an inclusive atmosphere.

Pupils in year 11 have 12 hours of PSHE delivered by their RE, English, and PE teachers during the Autumn and Spring terms.

Pupils in the sixth form have fortnightly PSHE assemblies and a dedicated MS teams PSHE channel with lessons and guidance.

You can view the PSHE curriculum and guidance (including RSE policy) on the school website here: https://bluecoatschool.com/pshe/

As a parent or carer, you play a crucial role in supporting your childrens learning in PSHE. Please see below for further guidance and information

The DfE has published a useful list of FAQs for parents on the new RSE/Relationships Education requirements, and two new guides on Relationships Education, RSE and Health Education.

You can read it here: https://www.gov.uk/government/news/relationships-education-relationships-education-rse-and-health-education-faqs

Brook is a great website for advice and support for many PSHE topics.

Brook website: https://www.brook.org.uk/



Blue CoatChurch of England School
& Music College

PSHE topics – Autumn 1

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
 Transition to secondary school. Respect in School. Personal safety in and outside school. First aid. 	 Drug classification and risks. Pressures related to drug, alcohol, and smoking/vapes and e-cigarettes. Drugs, alcohol, and smoking/vaping laws. 	 Healthy friendships and peer pressure. Gangs and knife crime. Grooming and exploitation. Bystander behaviour. 	 Transition to KS4. The importance of mental health. Warning signs of mental health. Mental health stigma. 	Communication in relationships, including consent. Contraception and STI's. Families, marriage, pregnancy, and abortion.	Starting A Levels Mental health. Stress and importance of managing stress. Body image.	Managing personal health away from home. Health screening. Contraception and STI's.
Website for further information and support						
Transition - https://www.young minds.org.uk/parent /blog/helping-your- child-manage-the- move-from-primary-	Drugs and alcohol - https://www.nspcc. org.uk/keeping- children- safe/talking-drugs- alcohol/	Peer pressure - https://www.childli ne.org.uk/info- advice/friends- relationships- sex/friends/peer-	KS4 transition – https://www.thepar entsguideto.co.uk/p ost/how-can-i- support-my-child- whilst-they-are-	Relationships - https://www.nspcc. org.uk/keeping- children-safe/sex- relationships/health y-relationships/	Starting A Levels - https://tutorful.co.u k/guides/the- parents-guide-to- every-school-year/a- parent-s-guide-to-	Sexual health - https://www.yourse xualhealthmatters.or g.uk/further-sexual- health- support/parents

move-from-primaryalcohol/ to-secondary-

school/

Personal safety https://www.itsnoto kay.co.uk/children/k

eep-safe/

https://drugfree.org /article/how-to-talkwith-your-kidsabout-vaping/

Smoking and e-

cigarettes and vapes

Grooming and

pressure/

exploitation https://www.nspcc. org.uk/what-is-childabuse/types-ofabuse/grooming/

whilst-they-arestudying-for-theirgcses

Mental health https://www.young minds.org.uk/parent /parents-a-z-mentalhealth-guide/

y-relationships/

Sexual health -

https://www.yourse xualhealthmatters.or g.uk/further-sexualhealthsupport/parents

key-stage-5-a-levels

Body image https://www.young minds.org.uk/youngperson/coping-withlife/body-image/

support/parents

Support for transition to university https://www.studen tminds.org.uk/suppo rtforparents.html

PSHE in the news – Autumn 1

1. Money Muling – If a young person suddenly has the ability to splash cash around, with no obvious explanation for their wealth, it could be a warning sign of money muling. Money muling happens when people are persuaded to let cash flow through their bank account in exchange for money or gifts – and young people in particular may be targeted.

Please see the following article for further information: https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-families/money-muling-teenagers-fraud-parents-protection-b2395381.html

2. Ministers set to ban single-use vapes in UK – Disposable vapes are set to be banned under new laws to help protect young people from becoming addicted. Health ministers are said to be preparing to act after growing concerns that companies are marketing the products in an enticing and colourful way to appeal to those aged under 18.

Please see the following article for further information: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-66784967

3. County lines – County lines are organised gangs who target young and vulnerable people who are then trafficked, groomed and exploited into selling and `running' drugs. Those exploited often do not realise that they are victims or that they have been groomed. They are offered gifts of money, clothes and food and feel loyal to those grooming them in return for couriering illegal drugs and money across cities, towns and villages.

Please see the following article for further information: https://crimestoppers-uk.org/news-campaigns/news/2023/jul/new-drugs-heat-map-reveals-county-lines-hotspots-as-we-launch-warning-over-drug-gang-exploitation





Children are being exploited by gangs involved in drug crime. Know the signs to spot.

County lines gangs use children and vulnerable people to courier drugs and money. A young person who is involved in county lines activity might exhibit some of these signs:



Persistently going missing from school or home, or being found out-of-area



Unexplained acquisition of money, clothes or mobile phones



excessive receipt of texts or phone calls



Relationships with controlling, older individuals or gang association





Suspicion of self-harm, physical assault or unexplained injuries





Significant decline in school performance



Significant changes in emotional well-being