

Aberdare Community School Ysgol Gymunedol Aberdâr



Whole School PSE Policy

Date Adopted	18 th May 2022
Signature of Headteacher	<i>Chwilt Morgan</i>
Signature of Chair of Governors	<i>J. R. R. R.</i>
Date to be reviewed	May 2023

Principles

At Aberdare Community School we utilise a whole school approach to Personal and Social Education which is central to the educational entitlement of all pupils and as a cross-curricular dimension, permeates all aspects of life in school. It is an integral part of the whole curriculum and is not seen as a separate subject. PSE comprises all that a school undertakes to support and promote the personal and social development and well-being of its learners. This approach is effective because many aspects of school life influence pupils' personal and social development.

Statutory Requirements

Since 2008, PSE is a statutory element within the basic curriculum for pupils aged 5 to 16. It is the responsibility of schools to plan and deliver broad, balanced PSE provision to meet the specific needs of all learners. <https://hwb.gov.wales/api/storage/35fae761-054b-4e9b-928c-03e86b3e207f/personal-and-social-education-framework.pdf>

Aims

PSE reflects the aims of the PSE framework for 7 to 19 year olds in Wales (2008). The aims of the PSE programme at Aberdare Community School are to prepare learners to be personally and socially effective by providing learning experiences in which they can develop and apply skills, explore personal attitudes and values, and acquire appropriate knowledge and understanding.

Specifically, the aims of PSE are to:

- develop learners' self esteem and a sense of personal responsibility
- promote self-respect, respect for others and celebrate diversity
- equip learners to live safe, healthy lives
- prepare learners for the choices and opportunities of lifelong learning
- empower learners to participate in their schools and communities as active responsible citizens locally, nationally and globally
- foster positive attitudes and behaviour towards the principles of sustainable development and global citizenship
- prepare learners for the challenges, choices and responsibilities of work and adult life.
- Provide motivating learning experiences, in which pupils can develop skills explore attitudes and values and personal qualities in order to achieve maximum potential.

Links with Other Policy Statements

Other policies refer to PSE-related issues and should be read in conjunction with this policy statement. These are:

- Sex and relationship education
- Substance misuse education, including the management of drug related incidents.
- Behaviour management (including bullying).
- Religious Education.
- Careers Education Guidance Policy

Learning Outcomes

Learners are given the opportunities to develop an understanding of the nature of communities in Wales and the roles, relationships, conflicts and inequalities that affect the quality of life. Learners acquire the skills, values and knowledge that equips them to participate in decision-making within their communities. Learners are encouraged to promote their health and emotional well-being and moral and spiritual development and global citizenship; and to prepare for lifelong learning. For 14-19 learners, this is a part of their Learning Core entitlement and is a requirement at Key Stage 4.

Equal Opportunities

The PSE programme plays an important role within personal effectiveness and personal development at Aberdare Community School. Every opportunity is sought to help pupils develop knowledge and understanding of themselves and others as individuals – their strengths, weaknesses, attitudes, personal qualities, ability and potential. Learners are encouraged to develop a sense of personal and cultural identity that is receptive and respectful towards others. Learners are to engage in programmes that allow them to develop and gain an understanding of skills, values and attitudes that will enable them to participate in our multi-ethnic society in Wales. All students have equal access and entitlement to the PSE programme regardless of their academic ability, age, sex disability or ethnic background.

Delivery and Content

At Aberdare Community School seeks to have a broad, balanced holistic approach to PSE. In addition to planned teaching of relevant PSE skills within national curriculum subjects and RE, we will adopt a multi-agency approach. This will involve input from among others, South Wales Police, Cwm Taf School Nursing service, YEPS, Careers Wales, RCT Education, Employment & Training Team, RNLI, Royal Navy and Barod. There will also be Peer lead initiatives within the PSE programme. These will include Y Senedd Aberdar, Healthy Eating programmes and Smoking Cessation Projects. The School will also participate in the Healthy School Programme, operate a Restorative Approaches system, make use of Mentors and develop links to and involvement with the local community. Aberdare Community School is an inclusive and caring school.

Through a variety of learning experiences, the school helps each learner to:

- Think and act for themselves
- Acquire personal qualities and values
- Take their place in a wide range of roles in preparation for adult life
- Develop confidence and interdependence
- Value and respect themselves and others
- Know themselves better and think well of themselves
- Develop social and life skills
- Value and respect belongings/living things/their environment
- Be able to share and co-operate

Work to develop this cross-curricular dimension may be included in class or school-based topics. Opportunities for Personal and Social development are identified in teachers planning. The Certificate of Personal Effectiveness is delivered at Key Stage 3 and the Welsh Baccalaureate at Key Stage 4 and 5 feature a range of experiences to promote the personal and social development and well-being of learners, as well as the SWEET programme at KS4 for some learners. These curriculum areas are supported by 'PSE days'

for all individual year groups, in which learners are provided with exciting learning opportunities and experiences which allow them to develop within all five themes of the PSE framework:

- Active Citizenship
- Health and emotional well-being
- Moral and spiritual development
- Preparing for lifelong learning
- Sustainable development and global citizenship

These themes should provide the basis for developing the skills of:

- Deepening thinking
- Literacy & Communication
- Digital Literacy
- Numeracy

Evidence of learning opportunities and experiences, are kept centrally by the Assistant Head-teacher responsible for PSE. This will take the form of a portfolio of evidence of photographs, evaluations, learners work and appropriate schemes of work from all curriculum areas. The Health and Emotional well-being aspect of PSE, considers the learners' physical, mental, emotional and sexual development. A separate Sex & Relationships policy is available and feeds into a lot of the provision highlighted throughout this PSE policy. The Active citizenship aspect considers the moral issues, careers, economic industrial and vocational aspects. We place an emphasis on the issues of community through work within our Wales, Europe and the World modules of the Welsh Baccalaureate at Key Stage 4 and 5. Education for sustainable development and global citizenship is part of the school curriculum and of school life and we continue to progress through the Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes. Reporting to parents takes place regularly during both formal and informal sessions. End of year reports for both the Certificate of Personal Effectiveness and the Welsh Baccalaureate contain comments about progress, strengths, areas of development and targets for improvements. More regular opportunities for reporting on learners with special educational needs take place through the review of IEPs. At Aberdare Community School, it is left to the professionalism of teachers concerned delivering PSE related topics as to the method they choose when presenting a particular theme in the PSE programme. It is recognised that teachers will have developed from experience their own way of creating interest and getting the best response from individual learners.

Guidance

Aberdare Community School provides opportunities for parents, the community, local industry and outside agencies to contribute to the learner's personal and social development through their active involvement in the life and philosophy of the school. The school has developed good links with South Wales Police, Cwm Taf School Nursing service, YEPS, Careers Wales, RCT Education, Employment & Training Team, RNLI, Royal Navy, Barod and Universities/Colleges. Many aspects of school life contribute to the Personal and Social Education development of learners, as well as curriculum subjects and PSE days.

Roles and Responsibilities

An Assistant Head-teacher has a strategic overview of PSE across the school and responsible for co-ordinating the Certificate of Personal Effectiveness and SWEET qualifications in conjunction with the Leader of Learning. The department is supported by

the SLT and the Deputy Head: Curriculum takes the Personal and Social Education Framework into account when planning for development, timetables and staffing. A member of the Governing Body acts as a link Governor for Personal and Social Education.

Continuing Professional Development

The training needs of the staff involved in the delivery of Personal and Social Education Framework are identified via continuous professional development interviews and the department's development plan. Teachers will access training opportunities by ASDAN for CoPE, Portal education for SWEET and WJEC for Welsh Baccalaureate qualifications as appropriate to the needs of the individual and/or departments.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Assistant Headteacher will regularly evaluate the current programme and plan for future developments, working to identify areas for development and set goals agreeing on strategies to achieve effective solutions and outcomes. Departments review PSE provision when they monitor and review their Schemes of Work. PSE is incorporated into the CoPE and Welsh Baccalaureate specifications and will be included in these development plans. These departments use a variety of other methods such as questionnaires and listening to learners to monitor its performance through Aberdare Community School's Self Evaluation Framework.

Arrangements for Reviewing the Policy

The policy was agreed by the Governors on 18th May 2022 and will be reviewed on a regular basis at in accordance with curriculum changes from Welsh Government & Qualifications Wales.

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2019-01/consultation-document-transformational-curriculum.pdf>