

THE FACULTY OF PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

'A dedicated team who aspire to instil interest and enthusiasm in the pupils we teach'

'We are passionate about what we do; we want to empower young people to enable them to lead full, happy and successful lives'

Sheldon students will be faced with a complex society in their future and we believe that it is our responsibility to help equip our students with the skills, knowledge and understanding to cope in the world. All children deserve an education that promotes their overall development and prepares them for life. This preparation involves students taking charge of their life through informed decision-making based on sound knowledge. If students make the right choices their quality of life is likely to be the best it can be and with this comes a greater feeling of self-worth and value.

The faculty has the same status and expectations of all other faculties.

This is a busy faculty comprising four areas:

- Personal and Social Education
- Religious Education
- Careers Education and Guidance
- Vocational Education

Each area is 'self-contained' and managed by a person with responsibility points, however they contribute to the overall aims and objectives of the faculty. This is a diverse faculty, but we believe that feeling a member of the team is vital to our success.

PSRE Curriculum

At Sheldon we are proud of our PSRE programme – both staff and students value it. The school has developed a teaching programme quite unique to Sheldon and a team of committed staff work closely together with the intention of delivering an excellent personal, social and religious education curriculum. We provide a variety of experiences which involves/includes all.

PSRE is currently delivered in the school to years 7–11 and covers elements of Personal and Social Education and Religious Education. PSRE curriculum time is divided between PHSE and RE ensuring that we meet the statutory time required for RE. The amount of time allocated to PSRE out of a 30 period week, is 2 periods (2 x 50 minutes taught in a double lesson) throughout Key Stage 3 and 4. Classes are taught by a team of specialist and committed teachers.

RE is delivered through discrete themes throughout PSRE curriculum time and we aim to educate students about religion and also encourage them to develop their own personal search for meaning.

In years 7 & 8 students are taught in their tutor groups (mixed ability) and in year 9, new mixed ability groups are created. The same teacher throughout the year teaches the class although we have the flexibility to team teach and swap groups if required.

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At Key Stage 4, again we mix students up to enable the best possible combinations of students. We rotate classes around different modules and teachers. This allows for 'specialist' teaching and the opportunity for students to meet and work with different staff throughout the year.

At Key Stage 3 the PSRE programme includes:

- Moral and Social Education
- Health and Relationships Education
- Religious Education
- Careers Education and Guidance
- Safety Education
- Citizenship

At Key Stage 4 the programme includes:

- Health Education
- Religious Education
- Relationships and Sex Education
- Careers Education and Guidance

We also successfully recruit to GCSE Religious Studies; We also give students the opportunity to choose GCSE Religious Studies as part of their options process and this is run in addition to our core PSRE provision. We also deliver A Level Philosophy and Ethics.

Within the faculty we have the school's successful vocational course – a programme that is more appropriate for some of our students and enables students to attain suitable qualifications to help facilitate career progression.

Overall, our aim, whatever we are doing, is to motivate and challenge – a variety of strategies are used to engage all students. We believe that links with the community are important in allowing our students to meet with different adults, thus developing their communication skills and learning how to behave appropriately. Consequently, we have a number of visitors into lessons to complement the taught programme. We also take students out of the classroom to make visits to relevant places of interest, including the development of two popular residential trips.

Staff involved in the PSRE faculty are continually striving to improve and develop their work further, we never stand still. We are confident in what we do and we firmly believe what we do enriches the lives of the students we teach.

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