



Citizenship, PSHE and Sex Education

Citizenship is a relatively new curriculum subject introduced in schools in September 2002. It is about helping young people understand the rights and responsibilities they have as members of society.

Citizenship Education is based on active learning and engagement with issues which affect students lives. It provides important opportunities for pupils to develop an understanding of their world and gain confidence in skills such as learning to think and discuss.

Students at King Edmund's are assessed five times a year in Citizenship. Assessments take a variety of forms including, debates, elections, project work, tests and display work. The assessments are designed to appeal to students multiple intelligences and senses, as well as testing their knowledge and understanding.

Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) gives pupils the opportunity to acquire the knowledge; skills and understanding they need to make the most of their abilities and become well-adjusted adults. It enables students to reflect on and assess their strengths in relation to personality, work, leisure and promotes the adoption of a healthy, safer lifestyle.

As part of the PSHE programme it is a requirement for schools to deliver Sex and Relationship education and Drug Education.

Sex and Relationship Education is about developing the physical, emotional and moral awareness of students. It hopes to promote the understanding of marriage, family life, and stable, loving relationships. It educates students on the topics of sex, sexuality and sexual health. It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or activity but about the promotion of knowledge, skills and attitudes to enable pupils to make informed choices.

Within our school context we wish to make sex and relationship education implicit with a focus of raising self esteem, of how to cope with feelings and life's experiences, friendships and relationships. It is appropriate to the age and development of the child, and is taught in a balanced manner.

Parents have a statutory right (1993 Education Act) to withdraw their children from all or part of sex education other than that provided in the National Curriculum programme of study.