



Personal Development -Statement of Intent

At St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School, our Personal Development curriculum is designed to ensure that all pupils are supported to become confident, respectful and responsible individuals, fully prepared for life in modern Britain. Rooted in our Catholic ethos, the curriculum promotes dignity, compassion and social responsibility, while enabling pupils to understand themselves, respect others and make informed choices.

The curriculum is carefully planned and sequenced to provide age-appropriate learning from Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 4. It enables pupils to explore identity, equality and relationships in a safe and respectful environment, helping them to develop resilience, empathy and self-awareness. Learning is matched to pupils' maturity and builds progressively, ensuring that knowledge and understanding deepen over time.

A core aim of Personal Development is to challenge stereotypes, misconceptions and discriminatory attitudes. Pupils are encouraged to question assumptions, recognise prejudice and understand the impact of language and behaviour on individuals and communities. Through structured discussion and reflection, pupils learn to engage respectfully with differing viewpoints and to uphold the school's high expectations for conduct.

Teaching makes purposeful use of real-world examples, case studies and current issues so that pupils can apply learning to real-life contexts. Student voice is actively promoted through discussion, reflection and leadership opportunities, ensuring that the curriculum is responsive to pupils' experiences and encourages active participation.

The Personal Development curriculum has clear and explicit links to British Values, particularly democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance. Pupils learn how these values underpin school life, wider society and the law. Safeguarding is embedded throughout the curriculum, with regular opportunities for pupils to learn about online safety, healthy and respectful relationships, consent, and how to seek help or report concerns.

Personal Development also reinforces the school's behaviour expectations, promoting respectful communication, positive relationships and responsible decision-making. Pupils are supported to understand the consequences of behaviour and the importance of making choices that contribute positively to the school and wider community.

Through this curriculum, St Edmund Arrowsmith aims to develop pupils who are morally grounded, socially aware and well-prepared for future education, employment and adult life, equipped with the knowledge, skills and values needed to thrive in an ever-changing world.

Delivery of the Personal Development curriculum is further strengthened through a structured pastoral programme. Core content is delivered through weekly, form tutor-led pastoral curriculum sessions, ensuring consistency, continuity and regular opportunities for reflection and discussion. These are monitored by the Personal Development Lead. In addition, learning is enhanced through calendared extended pastoral curriculum sessions, themed events, dedicated lessons, assemblies, external presentations and suspended timetable sessions. These planned opportunities allow for deeper exploration of key themes such as safeguarding, relationships, equality, British Values and wellbeing, careers and ensure that all pupils receive a comprehensive, high-quality Personal Development offer that responds to local and national priorities.



Personal Development - Statement of Implementation

As a result of the Personal Development curriculum, pupils at St Edmund Arrowsmith demonstrate a secure and age-appropriate understanding of identity, equality, relationships and personal safety. They are able to articulate their views confidently while listening respectfully to others, reflecting the school's high expectations for behaviour and conduct.

Pupils show an increased ability to challenge stereotypes and discriminatory language, both within the classroom and in the wider school community. They understand the importance of mutual respect, tolerance and fairness, and recognise how British Values apply to everyday life.

Pupils are knowledgeable about safeguarding, including online safety, healthy relationships and where to seek help. They are increasingly confident in making informed choices and managing risk, contributing to positive wellbeing and personal resilience.

Student voice is evident in pupils' willingness to engage in discussion, contribute ideas and take on leadership roles. Feedback indicates that pupils feel safe, respected and listened to, and that the curriculum supports their personal growth and preparation for future life.

Overall, the impact of the Personal Development curriculum is seen in pupils who are responsible, reflective and respectful members of the school community, well-prepared for the next stage of education and life in modern Britain.

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