
PSHE: How our work maps to the curriculum

Below are some of the ways that our Burnet News Club programme, supported by our news literacy framework, links to the PSHE curriculum. Both are built around our four key skills: scepticism, reasoning, speaking up and open-mindedness.

In brackets are the specific links to the PSHE Association Programme of Study for KS2 / KS3, which itself covers and goes beyond the new statutory guidance for September 2020.

Health and Wellbeing:

Keeping safe online (H22 / H20): Our unique online discussion platform, the Hub, offers students key advice for staying safe online, such as never giving out their real name, and who to turn to if they feel uncomfortable. They are also guided on steps they can take if a news story they read online upsets them.

Relationships:

Responding to others (R10, R3): Through the Burnet News Club sessions and on the Hub, students are guided on how to express their thoughts and opinions in an appropriate way and are encouraged to speak up confidently with their own views, supporting their opinions with reasoning. They are guided on how to have good discussions about the news - such as focussing on ideas not people, and how to constructively challenge others' points of view.

Challenging stereotypes (R16 / L7): Our resources help students be sceptical about media stories and seek evidence before forming views, which encourages them to recognise and challenge stereotypes

Living in the wider world

Debating topical issues (L1 / L3): Through the Burnet News Club, students learn about, discuss and debate topical issues. They develop knowledge of national and international problems and events that affect them and others, and they are given chances to offer their recommendations. For example, at the end of our Hong Kong in Crisis Issue, the students' final piece was to write a letter to their local MP advising on whether or not the UK should intervene.

Rules and laws (L2): Several Burnet News Club Issues have focussed on events in the political world. By studying systems of government, students learn why and how rules and laws that protect them and others are made and enforced, and are encouraged to express their opinions on different systems of government.

Exploring alternative points of view: (L8 / L1) Our focus on the skill of open-mindedness encourages students to see and respecting others' points of view before their making their own judgements. Students are also challenged to identify what has influenced their own views.

Critically examining social media (L18): Students are encouraged to be sceptical about news stories and to investigate their origin before assessing reliability, particularly when shared through social media.