

Ardstraw Jubilee Primary School

P.D.M.U. Policy



Ratified by Board of Governors: 12th November 2019
Review Date: November 2020

Mission Statement

At Ardstraw Jubilee Primary School we strive to provide a happy, caring, supportive environment where our children are nurtured to enable them to reach their full potential. Our focus is the whole child. We aim to develop children who are confident, creative, independent and co-operative learners; who approach challenges with openness, enthusiasm and a willingness to solve problems. We encourage children to have respect for individual differences, to become active contributors to society and life-long learners. We welcome the active involvement of parents and the local community in our school.

A Shared Vision for PDMU

At Ardstraw Jubilee Primary School we believe that this curricular area also compliments our school ethos, which permeates all aspects of school life. We teach PDMU to all children, regardless of their ability seeking where appropriate to recognise the specific needs and sensitivities of individual children.

Other policies that may overlap and have links with PDMU include the following:

- Special Educational Needs
- Child Protection and Safeguarding
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Health & Well-Being
- Food in School
- Intimate Care
- Alcohol and Drugs Misuse
- RSE Policy
- Eco Schools
- Road Safety

Objectives

Through the delivery of the Personal Development and Mutual Understanding (PDMU) programme our young people should be able to:

- Develop self-respect, respect for others and celebrate diversity.
- Equip learners to live safe and 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 principle of sustainable development and global citizenship.
- Prepare learners for the challenges, choices and responsibility of work and adult life.

Methodology

In line with our commitment to this learning area, each year group will have a timetabled period of Personal Development & Mutual Understanding each week.

This will support our ethos within the school, and it will support all aspects of teaching and learning in Ardstraw Jubilee Primary School. PDMU does not stop at the classroom door. The children are encouraged to use what they have learnt in the classroom, in the playground and around the school. Each classroom will hold regular assemblies to show case what they have been learning in their PATHS/PDMU lessons. Children will also have PDMU homework set on a regular basis.

We use the PATHS Programme to explore the area of Personal Development and Mutual Understanding alongside additional resources i.e. Living, Learning Together Programme as and when it is appropriate.

PATHS - Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies is a programme designed to facilitate the development of self-control, emotional awareness, peer relations and interpersonal problem-solving skills.

Pupils will acquire skills and knowledge of the following nine statutory statements within the two strands:

1. Self-awareness
2. Feelings and Emotions
3. Learning to Learn
4. Health, Growth and Change.
 - 4a. Safety
5. Relationships
6. Rules, Rights and Responsibilities
7. Managing Conflict
8. Similarities and Differences
9. Learning to live as members of the community

Teachers will use a variety of teaching approaches to assist in the delivery of PDMU - whole class, group work, and paired work. All teachers will create a safe and secure learning environment which will promote a positive learning climate.

Links developed with schools from different cultures through Shared Education will continue to be fostered and developed.

Cross-Curricular Links

The Arts: Help children to find a range of ways of communicating and expressing feelings and emotions through art and design, music and drama.

Language and Literacy: Help children to develop a vocabulary to discuss emotions and feelings through talking and listening, reading, writing, drama and role play.

Numeracy: Use statistical data to inform children about PDMU issues.

Physical Education: Help children to develop self-esteem, confidence and an understanding of the relationship between physical activity and good health. Allow children to work with others and develop an understanding of fairness and how to treat others with respect.

The World Around Us: Help children to develop insights into their own talents, thoughts and feelings by comparing and contrasting these with experiences and feelings of people in other places and times. This should involve the use of local and global examples.

Resources

The PATHS Programme is used throughout the school from Year 1 to Year 7. The school has availed of the 'Helping Hands Programme' from Women's Aid. Teachers also have access to the "Living, Learning, Together Programme" to help support the teaching and learning of PDMU, Road Safety Calendars, Media Initiative Programme and Jenny Mosley's Golden Rules.

Training

All staff teaching and non-teaching has received PATHS training. Parents are offered a Parent Information evening regarding the PATHS programme. Y7 children are trained in Playground Pal/PATHS Pals. Teachers involved in the Shared Education programme receive training. Mrs. Kelly, Mrs Porter and Mrs Alexander have received training on the Helping Hands Programme.

External Agencies

We acknowledge the importance of ensuring that any external agencies used to support our delivery of PDMU must adhere to the values and ethos of our school.

Assessment

When assessing children's Personal Development and Mutual Understanding we recognise personal rates of development cannot be standardised therefore when assessing and reporting we take account of and reflect each child's current strengths and developmental needs.

Self-assessment is also extremely important and this skill will be developed through encouraging children to talk about and reflect upon activities and situations in which they are involved or have been involved.

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REVIEW ARRANGEMENTS

All teaching staff are responsible for the planning, delivery, monitoring, evaluation and review of PDMU within their year groups.

The PDMU co-ordinator has responsibility for overseeing this process and will review progress in planning and delivery of PDMU with staff, liaising as appropriate with children, parents, EA and other agencies.

The PDMU coordinator will report to the school Principal and Board of Governors and review this policy as required.