

## **Citizenship education is:**

- Statutory. The whole of the programme of study for Citizenship is statutory and should be taught in all maintained schools.
  - About exploring a series of deep and meaningful concepts and processes around justice; democracy, rights and responsibilities.
  - A subject, a different kind of subject, and more than a subject.
  - About coherent and disciplined innovation in learning approaches.
  - About building young people's knowledge, skills and conviction to have an effective role in public and political life.
  - About helping young people to take action to change their communities for the better.
- 

## **Citizenship education is not:**

- Optional for students, teachers or schools.
  - To be confused with PSHE. About making young people more courteous and respectful.
  - Simply about raising money for charity.
  - About teaching young people about 'the national story' and how to be friends.
  - Just a classroom based subject.
- 

## **Aims**

During Key stage 3 we aim to develop pupils' understanding of democracy, government and the rights and responsibilities of citizens. During Key stage 4 we aim to build on their understanding of the key concepts whilst extending pupils skills and aptitudes.

The National Curriculum for citizenship aims to ensure that all pupils:

1. Acquire a sound knowledge and understanding of how the United Kingdom is governed, its political system and how citizens participate actively in its democratic systems of government.
  2. Develop a sound knowledge and understanding of the role of law in our society and how laws are shaped and enforced.
  3. Develop an interest in, and commitment to, volunteering that they will take with them into adulthood.
  4. Are equipped with the financial skills to enable them to manage their money on a day-to-day basis as well as to plan for future financial needs.
- 

**In line with the Citizenship Programme of study 2017, we aim to cover a wide range of elements that include:**

Knowledge and understanding of topics and concepts such as – laws and rules, justice, equality, freedom, rule of law, democracy, media, human rights, diversity, money and the economy, sustainable development.

Skills and aptitudes such as critical thinking, expressing opinions, taking part in discussions and debates, negotiating, enquiry, communication, conflict resolution and participating in community action.

Values and Dispositions e.g. respect for justice, democracy and the rule of law, tolerance, courage to defend a point of view and a willingness to listen, work with and stand up for others.

To enable us to cover the key aims set out in the new Citizenship programme of study in sufficient detail and to have worthwhile outcomes, we have introduced a ‘Theme Of The Month’ (TOTM) plan. By dedicating a theme to each month throughout the school calendar, Hurstmere encourages Citizenship Education to be an integral part of the school day. Specifically, Tutor Time, Assemblies and Curriculum time are ideal platforms for pupils outside of dedicated Citizenship lessons to discover the meaning of what makes a good citizen and furthermore are encouraged to take a leading role in their personal development and contribution to the school.

We will also offer a timetabled Citizenship programme to year 7, 8 and 9 pupils. In year 7 pupils focus on local social issues and follow the First Give initiative. In year 8 pupils study ‘Fairtrade’ and ‘Refugees’. Additionally, in years 8 and 9 pupils begin to study Careers in more detail than what is covered in the TOTM ‘Carousel’

Where possible, during citizenship lessons we will strive to implement live outcomes to the themes which are at the heart of what we do so that pupils can identify with the term ‘Citizenship Education’ as a REAL subject with REAL Outcomes. For Example, during October’s themed ‘Black History Month’, we will be asking pupils to study ‘Protest Music’. Following this, some pupils will be given the opportunity of not only creating their own protest song but also recording the most inspirational songs in the school’s very own Music studio. Additionally, we have an external company coming into the school to deliver Black African music workshops to pupils in both Key stage 3 and 4.

Our main aim this year is to offer citizenship lessons as a ‘Live’ subject. A ‘live’ subject that dovetails with the ethos of the school. Consequently the skills and values that are learnt can enhance life; beginning in school and radiating out.

---

## **Upcoming Theme Of The Months:**

October - Careers

November - Anti- Bullying

December - Citizenship Activities

January - British Values

February - Preventing Extremism and Understand Religions