

PSHCE UPDATE SPRING TERM

Welcome to the Spring copy of our PSHCE newsletter.

I would like to use this newsletter to keep you informed about our PSHCE curriculum.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the Academy.

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Our STAR curriculum is the umbrella term we use for the teaching of PSHCE.

The aim of the STAR curriculum is to:

- support students' spiritual, moral, cultural, emotional and physical development;
- prepare and equip students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life;
- provide students with a knowledge of their world, locally, nationally and globally and;
- give students the confidence to tackle many of the moral, social and cultural issues that they face as they grow up.

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PSHCE CALENDAR

Form time is an important start to the day and gives students an opportunity to reflect on world issues and current affairs. We have key dates in our calendar where events can be celebrated or remembered. Events covered this academic year so far have included, but not limited to, Holocaust Memorial Day and Remembrance Day.

For Holocaust Memorial Day, the students discussed facts and evidence relating to the Holocaust. Students were shown the different types of memorials present around the world commemorating the events. We discussed how effective these memorials are at embedding this event in our consciousness.

Students also undertook an assembly on Remembrance Day and discussed the reasons for the poppy usage; where the idea came from and what it is commemorating. The students learnt about the Royal British Legion and the work that it does to care for our servicemen and servicewomen. Students read and discussed the meaning of 'Dulce Et Decorum Est'. We then had a two-minute silence where all the students and staff reflected and remembered, showing their respect.

Other topics this term have included rail safety and online safety.

As part of their work on online safety, students have discussed whether the legal access age to social media should change and considered different viewpoints on this matter, including the stance that other countries take when making these decisions.

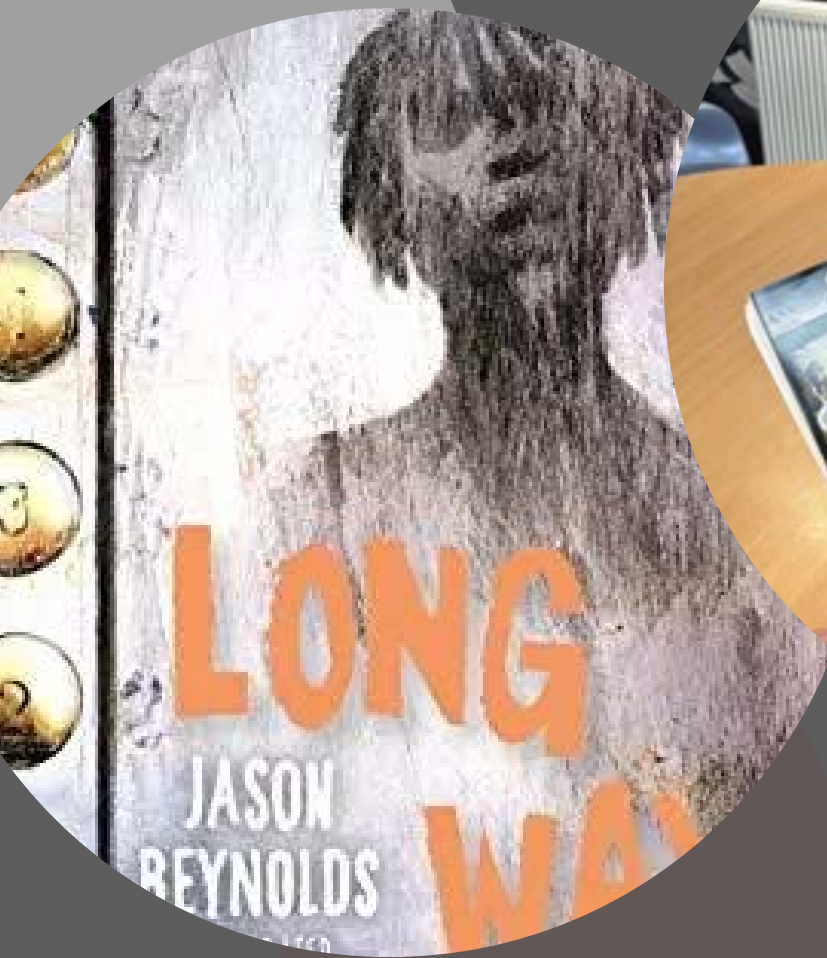


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READING

Our Nurture students read on a Monday and Wednesday during form time to build their literacy skills. One-to-one reading interventions are also in place, continuing to support the students to develop their reading skills.

Nurture are currently reading 'Long Way Down': a fictional story about a teenage boy who is caught up in a family feud and experiences gun crime at a very personal level, when his elder brother Shaun is murdered. The novel ends on a cliffhanger where the students do not know if the character lives or dies. The novel is about the problems which the author sees in modern society; poverty, gun crime, community codes and the feeling of insignificance.



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BTEC PERSONAL GROWTH AND WELLBEING

Year 10 are currently studying a unit of the Personal Growth and Wellbeing BTEC, which focuses on Emotional Health and Wellbeing. The students have been recently learning about different types of bullying.

The students have been given scenarios, that we have discussed as a group, imagining that they are the victim and then the perpetrator. The students then completed a piece of extended writing on what bullying is and how to respond. As a class, they discussed where support comes from, including our staff and the processes we use in school.

Year 11 are currently studying Unit 2 on Emotional Health and Wellbeing and Unit 7 Resilience and Wellbeing.

Students have discussed the impact of others on our emotional wellbeing and what we can do to ensure we have a positive impact on others.

Year 11 discussed examples of life events that have impacted them, such as divorce and bereavement and how this affected their mental state.

Post 16 students have been focusing on drug awareness and investigating the harms that drugs can cause. The students discussed the implications on someone's health of taking drugs and how this links to the classification that a drug is given in Britain.

These lessons prepare the students with the knowledge of the possible consequences, both legally and regarding their health.

This topic links to both Unit 1 of the Personal Growth and Wellbeing and Unit 2 that explores Emotional Health and Wellbeing. The students have learnt how these drugs can affect your relationships, brain chemistry and body functionality.



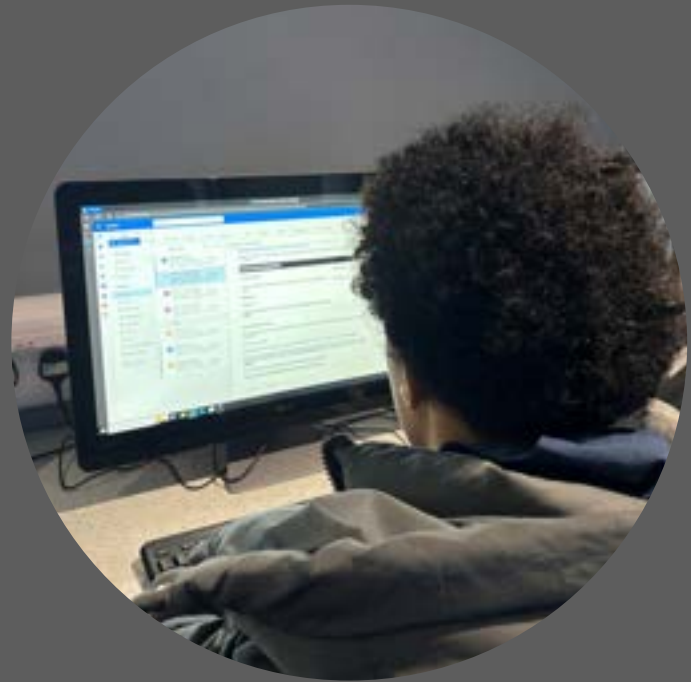
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CAREERS

Year 11 students have been working with staff to complete their career action plans and for many students, this means completing applications for further education. Whilst some Year 11 students will remain with us here at Sporting Stars in to Post 16 provision, others will move on to local colleges, apprenticeships etc. to continue their pathway in to adulthood and independence.

As part of this process, students have completed college visits and received talks and presentations from external providers regarding careers such as the NHS.

Next steps will be to prepare students for college interviews. Students are currently anxiously waiting to hear back from their college applications.



Year 11 students checking email updates from colleges now that all applications have been completed.

Staff undergo weekly Safeguarding training, with the topics this half term including refreshers in to:

- How to respond to verbal disclosures
- The positive and negative roles of family and friends
- How to record disclosures
- How to safeguard students who refuse to attend school