

Life Skills

Life Skills Subject Lead – Miss L Millington

Overview

The teaching of Life Skills at West Kirby School fits in with our rationale and aims for our whole school curriculum. They include ensuring that the curriculum has the needs of the pupils at the heart of everything we do.

- It is based on a strong foundation of oracy
- Meets the needs of our local community
- Is full of exciting, enriching and enjoyable learning experiences
- Provides opportunities for pupils, staff and parents to all learn together
- Positively improves academic outcomes
- Prepares our pupils to become positive role models in and effective contributors to Society
- Gives our pupils the chance to become the very best versions of themselves.

Key Stage 1 and 2

In Key stages 1 and 2, life Skills is taught following an **ASDAN programme 'Keysteps'**. We use a variety of teaching and learning approaches in Life Skills lessons including:

- Providing opportunities for the pupils to discuss, exchange and share ideas, experiences, facts and opinion on given topics.
- Allowing the pupils to share their opinions and views through debates in order to develop effective communication skills.
- Using role play to explore real life situations and unfamiliar concepts and develop the skills of negotiation, assertiveness, communication and self-awareness.
- Using storytelling to tell narratives with specific themes such as assertiveness, negotiations, and decision making. Using them to help identify choices they make on a day to day basis and the consequences of making decisions.
- Asking probing questions and posing problems which allow the children to brainstorm as a way of expressing their ideas with others, teaching children to value, respect and accept others contributions.
- Playing games and planning activities to interest and excite the children and teach them how to clarify difficult issues, discuss sensitive issues, enhance communication skills and learn and practice new life skills

For more information on ASDAN follow:

<https://www.asdan.org.uk/courses/programmes/key-steps>

Key Stages 3 and 4

In Key stages 3 and 4, life Skills is taught following an **ASDAN qualification 'Personal and Social Development Qualification'**. Our intent for our Life Skills curriculum is to challenge pupils to become confident and happy individuals. We aim to equip students with the skills and knowledge they will need to face current and topical issues and that will allow them to respond with resilience to future change and challenge in their personal lives and the wider world.

Life Skills at West Kirby is the subject which prepares our pupils for life and work in this changing world; helping to keep them safe, healthy and boosting their life chances. Through Life Skills we want our pupils to protect themselves and others both online and offline, improve their physical and emotional health, and develop character, resilience, and academic attainment and employment prospects.

Life Skills at West Kirby is delivered in regular timetabled lessons as a whole subject – from relationships & sex education to mental health, online safety to employability skills. Life Skills at West Kirby supports our pupils to address the changes they are experiencing, beginning with transition to Key stage 3, the challenges of adolescence and their increasing independence. It also helps develop skills which will equip them for the opportunities and challenges of life as well as managing diverse relationships and the increasing influence of peers and the media.

For more information on ASDAN follow:

<https://www.asdan.org.uk/courses/qualifications/personal-and-social-development>

Key Stage 5

At Key Stage 5, Pupils who complete the ASDAN Personal Development qualification can progress to **ASDAN Award of Personal Effectiveness**

This programme allows the student to develop and recognise a range of skills that will be invaluable when they start work and begin living independent lives. Students will work through a student book that comprises of 10 modules.

- Introduction with working others
- Dealing with problem with daily life
- Planning and reviewing learning
- Planning and carrying out research
- Preparing for and giving a presentation
- Developing self
- Team working
- Research skills
- Tackling problems
- Career exploration

For more information on ASDAN follow:

<https://www.asdan.org.uk/courses/qualifications/award-of-personal-effectiveness>