

JTM/cl

19th January 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

In line with the letter you received from headteacher Katie Boyes on 11th January, I am writing to you to formally introduce our new Curriculum for Life (PSHE) programme. Given the current climate which we find ourselves in, there is, rightly so, a focus around student mental health alongside physical and emotional wellbeing. With this in mind I'm proud to say the programme will be officially delivered to students across all year groups as of next week.

Before explaining the purpose of the programme and how it shall be delivered across the whole school, I'd like to pay tribute to all QE stakeholders including students, parents, staff, employers and the wider community; to which this programme would not have been possible without their initial feedback and overall engagement.

Throughout the programme, QE pupils will develop the knowledge, skills and qualities required to manage their lives, now and in the future. These skills and characteristics will help pupils to stay healthy, safe and prepare them for life and work in modern Britain.

The Curriculum for Life programme intends to remove barriers to learning, significantly improving their capacity to achieve. The programme makes a significant contribution to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, their behaviour and safety as well as the school's statutory responsibility to promote pupils' physical and mental well-being through Relationships and Sex Education. The programme will also develop student citizenship, and emphasise the importance of community whilst providing further education on careers.

Evidence shows that well-delivered PSHE intervention such as our Curriculum for Life programme has impact on both academic and non-academic outcomes for pupils in developing skills that have been identified as key attributes to future employment. Culturally there is now significant added pressure on exam performance and attainment, however I also feel passionately that as a school we are responsible for the personal development of young people entering our community. As a result, the overall intent of the programme is to deliver a curriculum accessible to all ensuring that each of our students understand more about how to play a successful role within society. The Curriculum for Life programme provides students with a knowledge of their world, locally, nationally and globally, giving them confidence to tackle many issues that they face as they grow up.

The programme shall be delivered through the following 5 steps:-

1. Students will gain access to a copy of their electronic Curriculum for Life booklets available in the year group google classrooms. **There is no requirement for the booklet to be printed.**
2. Tutors will then educate / support pupils / provide further guidance about specific Curriculum for Life topics on a weekly basis.
3. Students then update specific pages in their booklets based on that weekly topic. This includes their confidence and skills checker alongside their star analysis allowing them to self-reflect.
4. Having completed the weekly topic, students then turn in their whole booklet with the relevant completed pages into the year group google classroom where they will see a signposted assignment under 'Curriculum for

Life - Week Commencing 25th January 2021. As students go through the year, the booklet demonstrates their progress and wider understanding.

5. Students will be given time to complete the booklets during registration following tutor input. One topic is likely to require approximately 30 minutes.

The 6 Core themes which are covered include the following:

- CT1 - Rights, Responsibilities and British Values
- CT2 - Celebrating Diversity and Equality
- CT3 - Relationships and Sex Education
- CT4 - Staying Safe (Offline and Online)
- CT5 - Health and Wellbeing
- CT6 - Life Beyond School

Ahead of the programme launch, I strongly encourage all parents / carers to access the Curriculum for Life Overview to further understand in greater detail the content covered which at times can be hard hitting and sensitive. Please access the overview here [Curriculum for Life Overview](#)

As parents / carers, you have the right to request that your child is withdrawn from aspects of the programme, therefore if you would like to find out further information - please email me.

As a result of pupils' hard work, dedication and commitment to the wider community, the programme also provides opportunity to celebrate student success. Based on yearly performance and individual acts of outstanding citizenship, thanks to local businesses, students have the opportunity to be accredited with the following prestigious awards.

Curriculum for Life **Bronze** Award

Curriculum for Life **Silver** Award

Curriculum for Life **Gold** Award

Curriculum for Life **Platinum** Award

* students that go above and beyond will become eligible for a special recognition award highlighting their outstanding citizenship and excellence within the community.

Finally, I look forward to maintaining pre-existing relationships with you as parents / carers and if you have any further questions about the programme, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'J. Mead'.

Josh Mead

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Head of Lancaster and Curriculum for Life Coordinator