

Government takes 'major step' towards better PSHE for all

We are delighted by [today's Government commitment](#) to mandatory health education in all schools, for all pupils – a measure that's timely, welcome and a major step in the right direction. Health and wellbeing have long been central pillars of PSHE education, and this – along with recent commitments to mandatory relationships education – gives a clear signal to schools on the importance of regular, high-quality PSHE for all pupils.

This is a real testament to your work as PSHE practitioners and our campaigning together for all children and young people to enjoy high quality PSHE education.

With health education joining relationships education as a mandatory aspect of PSHE, the majority of the subject will now be compulsory in all schools. We see this as a key move towards addressing concerns about inconsistent provision and diminished curriculum time.

This doesn't however mean schools should de-prioritise other aspects of PSHE. Health, relationships, economic wellbeing and the ability to aspire and achieve are all linked and PSHE is the glue that binds them together into a coherent curriculum subject. Learning about economic wellbeing and preparing for work for example are vital to preparing young people for modern life – and are inextricably linked to health and relationships. Schools should therefore continue to embrace PSHE in its entirety – including, but not limited to, health and relationships.

Of course the detail is important, and the government consultation will help to flesh out guidance about what's covered and how this works in practice. We will be in touch soon once we've fully digested the draft guidance to let you know how you can contribute to this.

But for now it is time to take stock and celebrate. That all pupils in all schools will be guaranteed an education about physical and mental health, wellbeing and relationships is a very big achievement indeed.

Best wishes,

Jonathan Baggaley

PSHE Association Chief Executive



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