

The aims and rationale of the Learning for Life curriculum in Years 7 - 11

To equip students with the knowledge to keep themselves healthy and function successfully in the world beyond school. This includes ensuring that they can make informed choices about relationships and know how to have a safe relationship; ensuring that they understand how money works in a practical sense; exploring British values, covering law and politics; and developing positive practices to improve mental health and wellbeing, as well as an understanding of how to have a healthy lifestyle. Students should develop the skills needed to manage money, make informed political decisions, make choices about friendships and intimate relationships, and manage their emotions and mental wellbeing.

The Learning for Life curriculum has been constructed in consultation with appropriate agencies such as The PSHE Association, as well as the HGS Pastoral, Learning Support and Careers teams. It is delivered by a wide range of teachers at HGS once a fortnight. It includes a variety of quality-assured external providers, including Phase Hitchin, Herts Young Homeless and the Talk About Trust. The areas of study include the statutory content from the Citizenship curriculum and the statutory RSE curriculum. Computing, Philosophy and Ethics, Geography, History and Science also deliver some aspects of the statutory content. Students learn about each topic area every year and the intention is that they will build on their understanding of topics in an age-appropriate manner.

The topics will potentially be delivered at different times of the year depending on the availability of external speakers, but the content across the year will be the same for every class. Year 11 will also benefit from dedicated 'Careers and Finance' lessons once a fortnight to ensure that all material from the Citizenship and RSE curriculum is covered in depth. There will also be whole-school assemblies throughout the year to further consolidate and embed students' understanding of key content.

All topics covered in Learning for Life are compulsory. Should you have any further queries, please contact Mrs Foster at emily.foster@hgs.herts.sch.uk or kim.pearce@hgs.herts.sch.uk