

19 September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Personal Development Updates

I hope this letter finds you well. At Hungerhill we are passionate about the development of the whole child and our Personal Development curriculum is designed to support this. It aims to extend opportunities for students outside of lessons and create memorable experiences to complement our excellent academic results. I would like to share some reminders and updates on our Personal Development programme below and in addition to this, a summary of our Personal Development offer can be found on our 'PD on a Page' document on the school website: [Hungerhill School - Personal Development: Wider Curriculum](#)

Trust Pledges

Last academic year, we shared with you that all schools within the Brighter Futures Learning Partnership Trust have carefully developed a comprehensive programme to ensure that every child has the opportunity to meet our Trust pledges. These pledges are designed to encourage students to embrace opportunities beyond the curriculum. A reminder about the Pledge system is below.

What Are Trust Pledges?

The Trust pledges are a series of commitments, from both the Trust and Hungerhill School, to your child. These pledges have been thoughtfully co-created to support the holistic development of each student, aiming to enhance their knowledge, boost their confidence, and equip them with the essential skills they need to thrive and succeed.

How do the Pledges Work?

- Each pledge achieved by a student is recorded in Class Charts. This not only celebrates their achievements but also awards them points.
- Students will shortly receive a Pledges Passport which they can use to track their progress towards each pledge, record evidence and have pledges signed off by their tutors. Time will be dedicated to updating students' passports in form time every four weeks.
- Students also receive a pledge badge for their accomplishments:
 - Bronze Badge for achieving four pledges
 - Silver Badge for achieving eight pledges
 - Gold Badge for achieving all eleven pledges

You can view the Pledge Passport and further information about the Pledges on the school website:

[Hungerhill School - Trust Pledges](#)

PD Hour

Since September, we have introduced a weekly rolling Personal Development (PD) hour, delivered by form tutors to their tutor groups. This dedicated time provides students with the opportunity to engage with a broad range of topics beyond the traditional curriculum, ensuring they develop the knowledge, skills and values necessary for their future. The programme covers key areas including careers education, study skills, PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic education), and Religious Education. Embedding these sessions into a regular timetable slot enables us to provide consistent, high-quality provision that supports students' personal growth, academic progress and preparation for life beyond school.

As part of the programme, students study Religious Education (RE), which plays an important role in developing their understanding of different faiths, beliefs and worldviews. This not only supports their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development but also encourages respect, tolerance and thoughtful reflection. We follow the new locally agreed syllabus, ensuring our provision meets statutory requirements and reflects the diversity of our community. The new syllabus is structured around 6 Pathways. These Pathways can be seen as big questions, or ideas, about life. They are:

- 1: What is the nature of religion and belief?
- 2: How do we express belief?
- 3: What is a good life?
- 4: What is your personal journey through belief?
- 5: What influence and authority does belief have?
- 6: How does belief address life's big questions?

Students will learn to compare how different religions, denominations and non-religious worldviews approach each Pathway. For example, students will compare how Islam, Christianity and Buddhism reconcile the existence of evil and suffering with the existence of God. This approach will allow students greater opportunities to revisit and recall their knowledge and to develop their own well-informed ideas about the 6 Pathways.

PSHE/RSHE Curriculum

At Hungerhill, we believe that promoting the health and wellbeing of our students is an important part of their overall education and we do this through our Personal, Social, Health and Emotional (PSHE) curriculum. PSHE lessons are delivered once per fortnight within their timetable for Year 7 and 8 students as well as during PD hour, so that a wide range of topics can be covered early in their formative years. For Years 9-11, PSHE lessons are delivered solely through PD hour to prioritise GCSE subjects in their regular timetables.

PSHE covers many topics including all types of relationships, physical/emotional health and the skills needed to live in the wider world. The aim of our PSHE curriculum is to help students make safe and informed decisions during their school years and beyond.



Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) is a statutory element of our PSHE curriculum and all secondary schools in England are required to teach RSHE, including topics such as puberty, healthy relationships, friendships and pressures, marriage in the UK, emotions and wellbeing.

Whilst RSHE is a statutory subject, parents may withdraw their child from the sex education element. We want to assure parents that our curriculum is taught in an age-appropriate manner and provides students with the time to ask questions in a safe environment and ultimately receive information, rather than hearing content second hand or via online platforms.

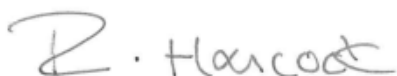
Parents and carers are the most important educators of children and young people in personal issues and many welcome the support that school can offer to supplement their home teaching. You may find that your child starts asking questions about the topic at home, or you might want to take the opportunity to talk to your child about issues before the work is covered in school.

If you would like more information on our PHSE provision, please visit the PSHE section of our website: [Hungerhill School - PSHE](#). If you would like to view lesson content, then please contact Mrs Hancock, SLT Line Manager for PSHE, via the school website, using the contact us form.

Our RSE policy is reviewed yearly and can be found on our website: [Hungerhill School - School Policies](#).

If you have any questions or need more information about any aspects of our Personal Development programme, please do not hesitate to use the Contact Us form on the school website.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs R Hancock
Assistant Head Teacher: Personal Development

