



# Personal Development Subject Curriculum Overview

“Every moment of one’s existence, one is growing into more or retreating into less.” –Norman Mailer

“You cannot dream yourself into a character; you must hammer and forge yourself one.” –Henry David Thoreau

Our Personal Development curriculum at Biddick Academy encompasses The Biddick Way and equips our students with the knowledge, understanding and skills that enable all students to make positive contributions to society, make decisions that are informed and keep themselves safe from harm. The curriculum encompasses PSHE, RSHE, Citizenship, CEIAG, SMSC, British Values and Study Skills. These are combined seamlessly with our wider Curriculum Faculties and Subject area contributions and Pastoral Curriculum areas such as assemblies and Tutor Time, all of which facilitate forming well-educated and rounded young adults ready to take their place in the world. At the core the curriculum explores what it means to be an active citizen and challenges students to look at themselves and understand fully their potential as learners and as humans. It focuses on personal health and well-being, relationships and sex education and explores the skills needed to be successful in the wider world. It provides opportunities that allow all students to see beyond the confines of Washington and to build a future that excites and fulfils.

Our ultimate aim is to enable all students, from all different backgrounds, to feel valued and belong to a school that embraces and celebrates the individual qualities of all, developing the resilience and character that will enable students to achieve their goals. The curriculum stimulates **curiosity** and challenges learners in differing situations that will take all learners out of their comfort zones. We believe that developing **resilience** and challenging students to grow into the best possible versions they can be of themselves, then there should be no limit on the **aspirations** they have for their futures. Our curriculum allows them to take control, take responsibility and be **ready** for whatever life has in store. This complements our school vision of developing learners that are curious to learn, question and probe. We promote resilience for when things don’t go as planned and readiness that gives them the knowledge, skills and confidence that enable them to tackle any situation head on and aspire to be the best version of themselves.

Personal Development is the responsibility of all teachers across the Academy. This bespoke curriculum will always be delivered by staff who are trained and confident to do so, led by a core team of specialist staff. The content follows statutory guidance as well as bespoke content focussed on developing character. Our curriculum aims to ensure ‘readiness, curiosity, high aspirations and resilience’ are impactful throughout our delivery and link to wider school content. Lessons at KS3 and 4 follow a spiral curriculum model in each year group and focus on health and well-being, relationships and sex education, careers and the wider world citizenship. This is complimented by wider subjects and their curriculum areas for example RE and History, as well as assemblies and additional content shared through weekly notices and tutor activities. Students are assessed in variety of ways using a combination of speaking and listening tasks and written pieces. Students are given opportunities to retrieve their knowledge and to apply this to different scenarios and contexts. All students are supported to display the Biddick Way Values of excellence, equality, integrity, respect and commitment through their PD lessons and wider PD curriculum.

We believe that Personal Development allows students to:

- Build an awareness and realisation of themselves as individuals who **respectful**, take responsibility and act with **integrity**.
- Develop the knowledge, attitude and skills necessary to develop **commitment** and participation in society.
- Celebrate differences having a secure understanding of the **Equality Act** and the Protected Characteristics.
- Enhance the development of knowledge, understanding, attitudes and behavior concerned with: oneself and others; social structures and organizations; social and moral issues.
- Demonstrate personal **excellence**, commit to securing their goals and developing career-related knowledge and skills for their success.
- Be **aspirational** in their next steps, **curious** about themselves and the world around them, **resilient** to overcome challenges.