

# Personal Development Statement

## CARITAS AND VERITAS

“Nothing is impossible. The word itself says ‘I’m possible’.” Audrey Hepburn

### Intent

Our purpose at Hartford Church of England High School is to ensure that students leave us well equipped with the knowledge, understanding and emotional literacy and oracy that they require to participate actively, positively, safely and responsibly in today’s society.

We support and challenge **all** of our students to set high aspirations and personal goals and are committed to fostering within them the self-belief that they can make a positive difference and contribute meaningfully to their local and wider communities.

### Design Rationale

Our Personal Development curriculum is designed to:

- Develop a **growth** mindset so that their talents can be developed through effort, good teaching and persistence, helping their learning to be more effective and efficient.
- Promote **resilience** as the key to helping students make sense of who they are and are challenged to achieve with firm boundaries, routine and structure.
- Place a great emphasis on the importance of motivation to learn. Students set goals and **aspire** to reach them.
- Offer opportunities for **volunteering** in school and the wider community.
- Promote **independent** learning by encouraging and enabling students to become self-directed in their learning experiences and to have more autonomy and control over their learning.
- Promote **teamwork** by encouraging collaboration, communication and social skills.
- Enable students to **achieve** their potential through hard work, determination
- Equip students with the **skills** necessary to fulfil their ambitions both academically and personally.

The core content of our Personal Development curriculum is delivered through the following ten themes:

1. Positive Relationships
2. Physical health
3. Mental health
4. Media literacy and Digital resilience
5. Managing risk and personal safety
6. Bullying and abuse
7. Healthy sexual relationships
8. Careers
9. British values
10. Wider community

The Personal Development curriculum is also designed to support our **principles** of CARITAS and VERITAS

CARITAS	VERITAS
Challenge	Volunteering
Aspirations	Enrichment
Resilience	Resilience
Independence	Independence
Teamwork	Teamwork
Achievement	Achievement
Skills	Skills

## Delivery

Our Personal Development curriculum is delivered through both **academic and pastoral programmes of study** and therefore is carefully mapped and sequenced across the following:

- **CARITAS and VERITAS Passports and Awards.** Students in Years 7 and 8 work towards completing a CARITAS (Y7) and VERITAS (Y8) passport throughout the academic year and if successful are awarded a Gold, Silver or Bronze award. Our merit system is also based upon each of the core values and staff award merits based upon each strand.
- **Fortnightly Personal Development lessons.** These sit within our CARITAS and VERITAS Programme. With our **PSHE lead** we have developed a two-year programme following the guidance set out by the **Citizenship Strands**, the **Character Education Benchmarks** and latest Ofsted Framework. The lessons are mapped out along with the topics covered during tutor time through assemblies, PETs sessions and Thought of the Week to ensure that all areas of the national curriculum are covered.
- **Citizenship Days.** On these alternative curriculum days our Key Stage Three and Four students follow a core PSHE theme for the whole day, such as Keeping Safe or Health/Sexual Relationships. Hartford staff work with a team of external experts to deliver crucial content to our young people.
- **Careers Education.** Our Careers Lead has developed a strategic five-year careers programme to ensure all students have access to robust and aspirational career advice at key points throughout their time at Hartford Church of England High School. Key activities relate to GCSE and A Level option choices, CV writing, interview technique and further and higher education advice including apprenticeships.
- **Religious Studies lessons.** Within RS lessons students develop their higher order thinking, questioning and listening skills which, in turn, are incorporated in their PSHE lessons.
- **Enrichment.** All Hartford Church of England students are encouraged to participate in a wide range of extra-curricular activities and opportunities after school. Clubs currently on offer include football, netball, multi-sports, story writing, dance, music rock club and chess.