

# The Thomas Aveling School

**Policy No: 08B**

## **CITIZENSHIP POLICY**

Draft policy written by T Taylor following working party 2006  
Reviewed – July 2008  
Reviewed – July 2010 (TTA)

**Related Policies:**

- Sex and Relationship Education.
- Drugs Education.
- Careers Education and guidance.
- Child Protection.
- Equal Opportunities.
- Inclusion.
- Behaviour Policy/Discipline.
- Health and Safety.
- Assessment recording and reporting.
- Anti-Bullying

**School Context:**

The Thomas Aveling School is a large non-selective 11-18 school, situated in an urban area and serving a multi cultural and socially diverse population. It has specialist school status (Technology and Training) and works in collaboration with primary and secondary partners within the Local Authority. It has also received the Medway Healthy Schools Award.

**Policy Formation & Consultation Process:**

The Policy was written by the Citizenship Co-ordinator following the work produced by the PSHE Action research group. The Research group were representatives from all Faculties and they provided an opportunity for a two way dialogue between subject departments and the work of the research group.

**Rationale:**

Citizenship gives students the knowledge, skills and understanding to play an effective role in society at local, national and international levels. It helps them to become informed, thoughtful and responsible citizens who are aware of their duties and rights. It promotes their spiritual, moral social and cultural development, making them more self-confident and responsible both in and beyond the classroom. It encourages pupils to play a helpful part in the life of their schools, neighbourhoods, communities and the wider world. It also teaches them about our economy and democratic institutions and values, encourage respect for different national, religious and ethnic identities, and develop pupils' ability to reflect on issues and take part in discussions.

**Aims:**

Citizenship, whether taught through a combination of PSHE or across the curriculum or delivered through events, activities or through tutorial time activities supports the schools' aims of:

- Encouraging excellence and raising aspirations so that all students experience and celebrate personal achievement in all aspects of school life.

- Promoting in our students self-discipline, self-esteem and an enjoyment of learning in a well ordered environment.
- Being a caring community, sensitive to the welfare and development of its students and staff.
- Actively promoting equal opportunities for all and helping students to develop awareness, respect and tolerance for the religious, cultural and moral values of others.
- Developing the school as an integral part of the local community and emphasising the partnership between school and family.
- Equipping our students with the knowledge and skills necessary to participate effectively in a rapidly changing world.

### **The Framework for Citizenship**

This comprises 3 interrelated sections:

1. *Democracy and Justice*: Focusing on the role citizens can take within the political and justice systems in the UK.
2. *Rights and Responsibilities*: examining different kinds of rights, obligations and responsibilities.
3. *Identities and Diversity*: Examining multiple identities held by individuals, groups or communities in a diverse society.

Citizenship aims to promote these 3 strands through a series of programmes of study that provide opportunities to develop the following key processes:-

1. *Critical thinking and enquiry.*
2. *Advocacy and representation.*
3. *Taking informed and responsible action*

### **Organisation and Delivery:**

Citizenship is delivered within a whole school approach, which includes a combination of:

- Discrete Citizenship provision with separate curriculum time.  
Discrete Citizenship takes place as part of the PSHE programme eg. units in Yr 7 examining rules and fairness, rights and responsibilities, and in Yr 8 examining communities and identities.
- In Yrs 9/10, students take a GCSE short course entitled “RE and Citizenship”.
- Teaching Citizenship within and through other subjects, curriculum areas and courses.
- Citizenship events / focus sessions e.g. drama productions by Channel Theatre Company, activities e.g. charity work by students and staff, tutorial work.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation of Citizenship:**

Citizenship will be monitored following the methods used for other curriculum subjects through quality assurance (QA) within PSHE and QA within individual Subject areas carried out by the Subject Leaders every term.

The Leadership team will review the subject in the same way as other Curriculum Reviews once a year.

QA will include observations – both formal and informal; work scrutiny and students discussions.

### **Policy Dissemination:**

Copies of policies are kept on the school intranet and with Heads of Faculty for staff use, and are available to parents on request.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation of the Policy:**

Policies are reviewed every two years in consultation with staff, students, parents and governors.