

Year 8 PSHE Unit Plan

Name of unit: Celebrating Differences	
Expected Outcomes (PSHE Learning Intentions) Learners recognise the challenges faced by individuals when trying to make positive change. They give examples of individuals who have made a positive contribution despite prejudice and discrimination. Learners give examples of social injustice in the UK and describe what inequality means in the UK. They give examples of social injustice. Learners define what is and what is not bullying. They give examples of LGBT bullying. Learners describe the steps that can be taken to challenge LGBT bullying. They make a positive contribution to their community. Learners recognise that the choices they make will impact on their ability to develop their self-confidence and integrity. They understand how respect and equality, or the lack of these, affects relationships. They know they can make a difference (self-efficacy)	
Developmental Focus Opportunities (Social and Emotional Skills Learning Intentions) Learners describe the positive feelings that result from doing something positive. They give examples of the benefits of living in a multi-cultural society. Learners challenge prejudice and discrimination. They understand and explain the emotional impact of LGBT bullying on both victim and perpetrator. Learners recognise the benefits of helping others. They understand that taking positive action can support mental wellbeing. Learners take positive action to challenge bullying, prejudice and discrimination. They believe that they can influence what happens to them and can make informed choices.	
Key Learning Points	Powerful Knowledge

Year 8 PSHE Unit Plan

1. Understanding Social Injustice and Inequality

- Learners can define **inequality** and **social injustice** in the UK.
- They can identify real-world examples (e.g., poverty, racism, gender inequality, ableism).

2. Recognising Positive Change and Role Models

- Learners understand the **challenges faced by individuals** who strive to make positive change.
- They can give examples of people who have overcome **prejudice and discrimination** to contribute positively to society.

3. Bullying and LGBT Bullying

- Learners can clearly define **what bullying is and isn't**, including **LGBT-specific bullying**.
- They understand the **steps to challenge bullying**, including reporting, supporting victims, and promoting inclusion.

4. Respect, Equality, and Relationships

- Learners explore how **respect and equality** (or the lack thereof) affect relationships.
- They understand that **self-confidence and integrity** are shaped by the choices they make and how they treat others.

5. Self-Efficacy and Community Contribution

- Learners develop a sense of **self-efficacy**—the belief that they can make a difference.
- They understand the value of **making a positive contribution** to their community.

1. **Social injustice and inequality exist in the UK**, and learners can identify and explain real-life examples.
2. **Individuals can make a positive difference**, even in the face of prejudice and discrimination.
3. **Bullying, especially LGBT bullying, is a form of discrimination** that can have serious emotional consequences.
4. **Respect and equality are foundational to healthy relationships** and inclusive communities.
5. **Living in a diverse society enriches everyone**, and multiculturalism brings social, cultural, and economic benefits.
6. **Personal choices shape identity and integrity**, and learners have agency in how they respond to societal expectations.
7. **Taking action against injustice is empowering**, and contributes to both personal growth and community wellbeing.

Year 8 PSHE Unit Plan

Subject-Specific Vocabulary	Reading Opportunities
Prejudice Discrimination Bullying Wellbeing Perpetrator Self-efficacy Integrity	Fiction & Narrative Non-Fiction • <i>Proud (compiled by Juno Dawson)</i> A collection of stories, poetry, and art by LGBTQ+ authors and allies. • <i>Wonder by R.J. Palacio</i> Encourages empathy and challenges assumptions about difference and kindness. • <i>Boy Everywhere by A.M. Dassu</i> A powerful story about a Syrian refugee navigating prejudice and identity in the UK. • <i>George by Alex Gino</i> A story about a transgender child's journey to be seen and accepted Poetry & Short Texts • “No Problem” by Benjamin Zephaniah A poem about racism and resilience. • “Refugees” by Brian Bilston A reversible poem that challenges prejudice and promotes empathy. Non-Fiction & Articles • BBC Bitesize PSHE – Articles on bullying, equality, and diversity. • Stonewall School Resources – Real-life stories and guidance on LGBT inclusion. • Newsround – Age-appropriate news stories on social justice and community action.
Possible Misconceptions	Cross-Curricular Links
“Bullying is just teasing or joking”	

Year 8 PSHE Unit Plan

"LGBT bullying only affects LGBT people" "Only adults can make a difference" "Discrimination only happens in other countries" "Respect means agreeing with everyone" "Helping others doesn't benefit me"	
---	--