

Year 5 PSHE Unit Plan

Name of unit: Citizenship	
Expected Outcomes (PSHE Learning Intentions) Pupils who are secure will be able to: Understand what happens when someone breaks the law. Understand what rights are and that freedom of expression is one of these rights. Understand how reducing the use of materials and energy helps the environment, and what individuals can do to support this. Understand how people contribute to society and how this is recognised. Understand the role of pressure groups. Understand the basics of how parliament works including the parts of parliament.	
Developmental Focus Opportunities (Social and Emotional Skills Learning Intentions) Year 5 Citizenship, pupils develop key social and emotional skills by exploring empathy, fairness, and responsibility. Through collaborative activities and discussions, they learn to respect diverse viewpoints, express their own ideas clearly, and understand how their actions impact others. These experiences help build self-awareness, promote teamwork, and foster a sense of belonging within their school and wider community.	
Key Learning Points	Powerful Knowledge
Explaining why reducing the use of materials is positive for the environment. Discussing how rights and responsibilities link. Exploring the right to a freedom of expression. Identifying the contribution people make to the community and how this is recognised. Developing an understanding of how parliament and Government work. Identifying ways people can bring about change in society.	To know what happens when someone breaks the law. To understand the waste hierarchy. To know that parliament is made up of the House of Commons, the House of Lords and the Monarch. To know that parliament is where MPs debate issues, propose laws, amend existing laws and challenge the government's work. To know that a pressure group is a group of people who feel very strongly about an issue and want to see something change.
Subject-Specific Vocabulary	Reading Opportunities
defendant environment freedom of expression government House of Commons human rights	"The Invisible Boy" by Trudy Ludwig – explores inclusion and kindness. "For Every Child" by UNICEF – introduces the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. "The Great Kapok Tree" by Lynne Cherry – links environmental responsibility with global citizenship.

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judge jury Member of Parliament (MP) parliament pressure group Prime Minister trial	Malala Yousafzai, Greta Thunberg, Marcus Rashford – short biographies or news articles about these figures help pupils explore activism, rights, and social justice.
Possible Misconceptions	Cross-Curricular Links
In Year 5 PSHE Citizenship, pupils may mistakenly believe that rights are the same as privileges, or that only adults can make a difference in society. They might also think rules exist just to control people, rather than to keep communities safe and fair. Addressing these misconceptions through discussion, role play, and real-life examples helps children develop a clearer understanding of empathy, responsibility, and active citizenship.	British values: Rule of law British values: Individual liberty British values: Democracy