



The Ripley Academy and Sixth Form



Executive Headteacher: **Mrs H Frost-Briggs BA (Hons)**
We are **AMBITIOUS**. We are **COMMITTED**. We are **PROUD**.

Re: Year 7 Personal Development Curriculum 2025–2026

At The Ripley Academy, we believe that Personal Development is a vital part of your child's education and growth. Our carefully planned curriculum is designed to support our students in developing the knowledge, skills, and understanding they need to lead confident, healthy, and responsible lives, both now and in the future.

This year, your child will take part in a range of lessons and activities through our Personal Development curriculum, covering the following key areas:

- **Managing Change** – Students will be able to recognise how transitions in their lives can have an impact on them. Students will begin to think about their future and what career they would like.
- **Puberty and Body Development** – Students will start to learn and understand what puberty is and what this can look and feel like. Students will be able to name parts of the reproductive system.
- **Friends, Respect & Relationships** – Students will know what “consent” means and how important this is. They will be able to describe what makes a good friend and explain why some relationships are not positive.
- **Staying Safe Online and Offline** – Students will learn about the dangers of society both on and offline. They will know the dangers of online gaming, drugs and alcohol.
- **Celebrating Differences** – Students will understand how they can help break down stereotypes and understand what the equality act is.
- **Politics & Parliament** – Students will understand why parliament exists and why it is important.

We fully respect that some parents and students may hold particular personal or religious convictions. If any of these are incompatible with the content of specific RSE lessons, we understand and respect your right to request that your child be withdrawn from those sessions. If you wish to make such a request, please contact the Head of School in writing.

We are also excited to tell you that as a school we are actively working towards obtaining the Derbyshire Bronze BERT Award (Building Effective Relationships Together). This award is designed to support the development of relationships and sex education in accordance with statutory requirements and the Ofsted framework. Accreditation of the award demonstrates the high-quality relationship and sex education within our school which helps to support our children to lead safe, healthy, happy lives.

We also appreciate that you may wish to explore more details about what your child will be learning and we encourage you to visit our school website, where you will find a comprehensive overview of our Personal Development curriculum, including the RSE elements.

You can access this information at:

<https://www.ripleyacademy.org/curriculum/curriculum/personaldevelopment/>

We look forward to working with you to ensure your child has a successful and enriching Year 7.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs L Crowder
Deputy Headteacher

Mrs L Tollervey
Head of Personal Development

