The Ripley Academy
and Sixth Form
We are Ambitious ▪ We are Committed ▪ We are Proud

Executive Headteacher
Mrs H Frost-Briggs
Head of School
Mr J de Rijk

Re: Year 10 Personal Development Curriculum 2026–2027

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:

- **Equality & Citizenship**- Students will explore equality, human rights and discrimination in modern society. They will learn about the Equality Act, LGBTQ+ rights, gender equality, disability discrimination, racism and how barriers to equality can be challenged.
- **Exploring Relationships & Sex Education**- Students will develop their understanding of healthy relationships and sexual decision-making. They will explore consent, sexualisation, pornography, sexting, unhealthy relationships, sexual assault, FGM and the importance of respect and personal boundaries.
- **Violence, Crime & Seeking Safety**- Students will learn about different forms of violence, crime and exploitation and how to protect themselves. Topics include knife crime, honour-based violence, forced marriage, modern slavery, sextortion, online risks, financial abuse and ending unhealthy relationships.
- **Healthy Bodies & Healthy Futures**- Students will learn how to take responsibility for their physical health and future wellbeing. They will explore healthcare services, healthy behaviours, pregnancy, menstrual and gynaecological health, antimicrobial resistance, first aid and making healthy lifestyle choices.
- **Healthy Minds & Safe Choices / British Values**- Students will develop strategies for supporting their emotional wellbeing and making safe choices. They will explore mental health, screen time, masculinity and misogyny, critical thinking, fake news, hate crime, human rights, democracy, individual liberty, mutual respect and British values.

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with the content of specific RSE lessons, we understand and respect your right to request that your child be withdrawn from those sessions.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.

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Proud to be rated Ofsted Good in both 2022 and 2025

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 10.

Yours faithfully,





Mrs L Crowder
Deputy Headteacher

Mrs L Tollervey
Head of Personal Development