

Work Experience & PSHCE Curriculum Alignment Document

Villa Real School

This alignment document shows how work experience is integrated into the PSHCE curriculum to ensure pupils develop meaningful independence, employability skills, and readiness for adulthood. Work experience is treated as a sequenced learning journey, not a standalone event.

Alignment Overview

| PSHCE Theme | Work Experience Element | What This Looks Like | Gatsby Links |
|---------------------------|---|---|--------------|
| Living in the Wider World | Preparation for work experience | Exploring jobs through sensory experiences, job role stories, community visits, careers days | 2, 3, 5 |
| Health & Wellbeing | Understanding workplace routines & safety | Personal safety, asking for help, following simple instructions, managing sensory triggers | 6 |
| Relationships | Working with others | Practising communication, turn-taking, problem-solving with adults/peers in workplace-style tasks | 5 & 6 |
| Living in the Wider World | Real work experience | Supported placements, in-school enterprise, micro-roles, long-term internships | 6 |
| Living in the Wider World | Reflection, evaluation & next steps | Celebrating achievements, reviewing strengths, identifying preferences | 3 |

Sequenced Alignment Across the Work Experience Journey

Pre-Placement - PSHCE Curriculum Builds Readiness

We work with our young people to prepare for the community and working life. There is a heavy focus on personal development, our Quality-of-Life Model (WISPA) and self-awareness, before practical preparations are put in place.

During Placement – Developing Skills Through Real Experiences

During work experience, our young people apply the skills learned in PSHCE within real or simulated workplace environments. The focus is on building confidence, communication and problem-solving skills, developing independence, and practising social interaction with a range of adults. Staff provide structured support to help pupils manage routines, expectations, and sensory needs while safely engaging in meaningful tasks linked to their interests and strengths.

Post-Placement – Reflection, Growth and Next Steps

Following each placement, pupils take part in supported reflection to review what they enjoyed, what they found challenging, and what they achieved. This process helps pupils recognise their strengths, build self-esteem, and deepen understanding of their own preferences. The insights gained inform future planning, contributing directly to Preparing for Adulthood targets, individual careers pathways, and wider personal development within the PSHCE curriculum.

Work experience at Villa Real School is fully integrated into the PSHCE curriculum to ensure pupils develop independence, social participation and prepare them for adulthood.