# Personal Development at Heath Hayes Academy

# Learning for Life

1.	The Hero's Journey (The Learning Line)			
2.	The Hero's Journal			
3.	The Hero's Curriculum including: - SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) - British Values (Rule of Law, Democracy, Respect and Tolerance, Individual Liberty) - RHE (Relationship & Health Education)			
4.	PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic)			
5.	Citizenship			
6.	Commando Joes (RESPECT)			
7.	Relational Care			
8.	Forest Heroes			
9.	11B411			
10.	Enrichment/Opportunities Educational Visits			
11.	Sustainability - Active Travel - Eco Warriors - Curriculum Adventures - 11B411 - Climate Action Award - Conscious decisions			
12.	School Council			

# 1. The Hero's Journey (The Learning Line)

The learning line at Heath Hayes Academy is an attitude towards learning ethos, with shared language across all elements of the school.



# Be Open

The Hero's Journey begins with 'Be Open' on the learning line. This is the very beginning of the journey which originates from ancient myths. Often explained as 'the call to adventure' where children are challenged to be open in hearing the call to take on a new adventure/challenge.

#### Be Kind

Following this children move along the journey to 'Be Kind' on the learning line. During this stage, children are encouraged to be kind to themselves and others when entering a new experience/activity or challenge. Learners at Heath Hayes are encouraged to plan, understand and 'accept the call to adventure'.

# Be Brave

'Taking the leap' is at the very top of the dip in learning time. This is where children have the opportunity to face a challenge with courage, perseverance and strength. Having accepted the call to adventure, learners can pass the threshold and begin their journey whilst being fully prepared.

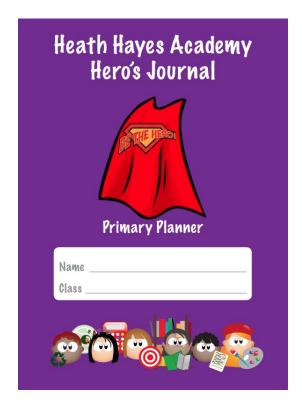
#### **Believe**

Believing in themselves and others is a habitual practice within Heath Hayes and is centered around the 'dip' in the learning line. This features the 'trials and tribulations' of the Hero's Journey, whereby children face change, challenge and difference to overcome barriers. Often described as the 'path of trials' in which new learning is gained, and errors occur in order to embed knowledge and understanding.

#### Be the Hero

To end the learning line (although this journey can be featured over a lesson, day, week, academic year or entire primary school experience) is the opportunity to 'Be the Hero'. This is where heroes 'return with the elixir' as the final reward of new learning earned for the journey.

# 2. The Hero's Journal



There are a number of challenges for each year with space for additional challenges for children to complete. The challenges fit into the areas of the Hero's Journey Learning Line. The more challenges which are completed, the fuller your Heath Hayes Hero cape will be!

#### The areas:

- Be Open
- Be Kind
- Be Brave
- Believe
- Be the Hero

For each challenge that is completed, children will receive a certificate to recognise their achievement. When children have completed 2 or more activities from one of the challenge areas they will receive a sew on badge to acknowledge this. These badges can be attached to Hero capes and collected throughout primary school.

The school provides opportunities for Hero's Journal challenges to be completed in school, providing all children the opportunity to gain certificates and badges.

# 3. The Hero's Curriculum

	Positive Wellbeing	Happy, healthy Relationships	Independence & Responsibility	Valuing difference
Learning for Life Values	Physical and mental health of self.	Relationships with families, friends, and the community.	Being an adult. Citizenship, the wider world. Being their own person. Care for the planet. Money management.	Understanding people from all backgrounds.

Values across school	Health & Wellbeing	Relationships	Independence & Responsibility	Valuing difference
SMSC: Cultural		Recognising the things people and communities share in common.	Preparing for life in modern Britain.  Understanding and appreciating personal influences  Knowledge of Britain's democratic parliamentary system.	Exploring, understanding, and respecting diversity.  Participating and responding to cultural activities.  Celebrating and respecting diversity in local, national and global communities.  Understanding different cultures is essential for life in modern Britain.  Understanding the wide range of cultural influences that shape heritage.
SMSC: Social		Volunteering, cooperating with others and resolving conflicts.  Using a range of social skills in different contexts.	Engaging with British Values and contributing to life in modern Britain	
SMSC: Spiritual	Experiencing enjoyment and fascination in learning.  Reflecting on experiences.  Using imagination and creativity in learning.		Reflecting about their own beliefs and perspective on life.	Respecting different people's faiths, feelings, and values.
SMSC: Moral			Recognising right and wrong and understanding legal boundaries.  Understanding the consequences of their behaviour and actions.	Investigating moral and ethical issues and appreciating others' viewpoints.
British Values:			Democracy The rule of law	Mutual respect and tolerance Individual liberty

PHMW whole school	Mental wellbeing Internet safety and harms Physical health and fitness Healthy eating Drugs, alcohol and tobacco Health & prevention			
RHE	Basic first aid  Being safe	Respectful Relationships Caring relationships Families and people who care for me. Online relationships		
PSHE whole school	Healthy lifestyles (physical wellbeing)  Mental health  Ourselves, growing and changing	Keeping safe Families and close positive relationships Friendships Communities Managing hurtful behaviour and bullying Safe relationships Respecting self and others	Shared responsibilities  Media literacy and digital resilience  Economic wellbeing-Money  Economic wellbeing-aspirations, work and careers	
PSHE KS2 specific	Changing adolescent body			

# 4. PSHE at Heath Hayes Academy

At Heath Hayes Academy, we follow government guidance, and our Learning for Life curriculum objectives, to provide the children with an enriching Personal, Social, Health and Economic education which helps to prepare them for the next stage of life. Within this subject area, the children are taught to form meaningful, respectful relationships, learn key life skills, and develop personal aspirations and goals. Evidence for our PSHE curriculum can be found within each cohort's Learning for Life floorbook, which encompasses all elements of the Learning for Life curriculum, as well as enrichment opportunities, and themed days.

Government guidance for PSHE can be found below:

 $\frac{https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/personal-social-health-and-economic-education-pshe/personal-social-health-and-economic-pshe-education}{health-and-economic-pshe-education}$ 

# 5. Citizenship

In order to continually develop our school's ethos, 'believing in a brighter future', citizenship is included within our Learning for Life curriculum, in which our pupils will continue to learn key life skills, allowing them to become well-rounded citizens. Our aim is to equip our pupils with the skills necessary to live safe, healthy lifestyles, promoting values of independence and responsibility.

Within the objectives of our independence and responsibility aims, our pupils would learn key skills, such as:

- Being an adult
- Citizenship, and the wider world
- Being their own person
- Caring for the planet
- Money management

These skills prepare our children to be ready for life after Heath Hayes and continue to promote our vision and values. Further information on this subject, including government guidance can be found below:

Department for Education - (publishing.service.gov.uk)

#### 6. CoJo & the RESPECT model

Commando Joes mission statement:

"We exist to help young people find their place, feel capable and ultimately flourish in a challenging world. Because the rules for life are shifting and changing at a rapid pace. We are the most connected we've ever been, and yet the most disconnected at the same time. Traditional academic subjects may fill brains with knowledge and information. But we believe that building character, self-confidence and resilience are equally important to young people in the modern day."

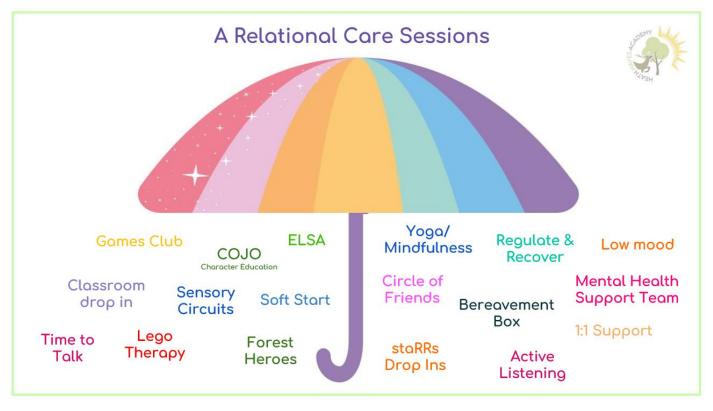


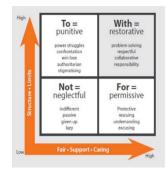
Commando Joes is a school-led programme which promotes character building, self-worth and confidence in young people, for happier, healthier living. Through their RESPECT approach, Commando Joes (CoJo) allows children to build key life skills through a fun and interactive approach.

At Heath Hayes, we believe teaching children key life skills is an important part of their educational journey, and therefore we integrate CoJo throughout our school environment: at lunchtimes, during relational care interventions and as missions within class adventures.

# 7. Relational Care

At Heath Hayes Academy, we prioritise the mental health of all our students and recognise that nourishing their emotional literacy skills will enable them to learn for life. We adopt the Relational Care approach, which emphasizes building and maintaining meaningful relationships between adults and children. Relational Care refers to the way in which we recognise and support the emotional needs of children and young people through positive, authentic, relational connections. Relational care practices are built on an understanding of everyone's differing lived experiences of people and the world around them with a focus on trauma and attachment needs, and neurodiversity. To support this approach all staff are trained in restorative practice, this is a way of working with conflict that puts the focus on repairing the harm that has been done. It is a non judgmental approach to conflict resolution that includes all of the parties involved.







Additional support is offered to our children when a need is identified. To help support our children we have a Relational Care Team that provides extra care and attention to students' mental health and social-emotional needs. Receiving support from this team is a wonderful way to ensure every child feels happy, safe, and ready to learn. It's about giving each student the care and support they need to thrive, no matter what comes their way. Our goal is to provide a positive environment where all students can thrive, no matter what challenges they may face.

The relational care team offers support for bereavment, transition, anxiety, worry, friendships, self-esteem, heightened emotions and stress responses.

Staff are highly skilled to deliver theses sessions and equip each child with the necessary skills to navigate their future

thoughts and worries, skills gained include emotional literacy, regulation strategies, friendship and communication skills, listening and attention and teamwork.

# 8. Forest Heroes

At Heath Hayes Academy, every child will have the opportunity to experience Forest School for a whole term each year, immersing them in hands-on learning within the natural environment. Our program encourages children to explore and develop a love for nature while gaining practical skills. They will learn how to use various tools, light real fires safely, and work together to build dens. Through our 'Grow to Eat' initiative, they will grow and observe crops, fruit, and vegetables, while also caring for our homegrown chickens. These experiences foster teamwork, responsibility, and a deep connection to the natural world, all while fulfilling our 11 before 11 promises.

# Principles of Forest School

At the heart of Forest Heroes are the core principles of Forest School, which emphasize:

- Child-Centered Learning: Every session is guided by the children's interests, encouraging them to explore, discover, and learn at their own pace.
- Holistic Development: Activities are designed to nurture not only academic skills but also emotional, social, and physical growth.
- Connection with Nature: Through regular outdoor sessions, children develop a deep respect and understanding of the natural world.
- Building Resilience and Confidence: By facing challenges and taking measured risks, children grow in confidence, independence, and problem-solving abilities.
- Play and Exploration: Play is a key element, enabling children to engage with their surroundings in creative and imaginative ways.

# **Exciting Outdoor Activities**

Our Forest Heroes program provides a range of exciting, nature-based activities which inspire curiosity and creativity:

- Den Building: Children use natural materials to construct shelters, developing teamwork and problem-solving skills.
- Nature Crafts: Using leaves, twigs, and other natural items, children create beautiful artwork, fostering creativity and fine motor skills.
- Wildlife Exploration: With guided sessions, children learn to observe and appreciate the diverse flora and fauna in our forest environment.
- Fire Building and Outdoor Cooking: Under close supervision, children safely learn fire-building techniques and how to prepare simple meals outdoors, teaching responsibility and survival skills.
- Mud Play and Puddle Jumping: These joyful activities encourage free play, building sensory awareness and a sense of adventure.

# Caring for Our School Chickens

An important aspect of our Forest Heroes program is the care of the school chickens. Through regular interaction, children learn responsibility and empathy as they:

- Feed the chickens and provide fresh water.
- Collect eggs, which they proudly bring back to share with the school community.
- Help maintain the chicken coop, ensuring the chickens live in a safe, clean environment.

Forest Heroes is an opportunity for children to develop life-long skills and a love for nature, while gaining a sense of responsibility, independence, and community. We look forward to guiding your child through this wonderful adventure!

# 9. 11B411

Life is an adventure – and school should be too! Check out our REAch2 Academy Trust 11B411 Promises!

Think back – what do you remember about your primary school days? Was it phonics lessons or learning how to do long division? Or was it a brilliant school trip where you camped under the stars? Or built a raft and crossed a lake? Or built and launched rockets from the playground?

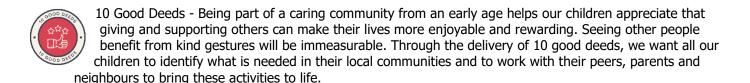
These types of great opportunity – the memorable experiences that cement themselves into your psyche – happen in

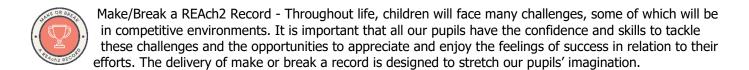
every school. What's different for us is that we consciously codify it into a set of promises so that it becomes something that EVERY child is entitled to.

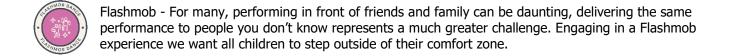
And "11 before 11" is the way we do this; it's a set of promises that help our children to be in the driving seat in their own lives. They are a series of seminal experiences that we want every child in the REAch2 family to have experienced before they leave us to go to secondary school aged 11.

REAch2 have a trust-wide enrichment program that aims to offer all pupils 11 amazing experiences before they leave primary school. At Heath Hayes Academy, we have been working on incorporating more and more of the 11 promises each year, so that all children attending our school get to experience wonderful, exciting adventures. All the experiences are important in helping children grow academically and personally.

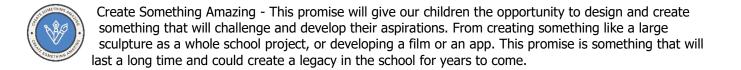
# The promises:







Seeds to Supper - A good diet is key to a healthy life. We want our children to understand how food is grown and how tasty fresh food is to eat, to understand the nutritional value of food and what makes a good healthy diet. We want our children to try new foods and be curious and inquisitive about the foods of different cultures. Having grown their own food it's important that our children also have the skills and confidence to prepare their own meals.



Messing Around on the Water - Being confident in and around water is a vital life skill. In addition to keeping children safe it also unlocks a world of exciting opportunities and challenges. Through our Messing About on the Water promise, we want our children to have the opportunity to experience new activities and test themselves in ways they might not have imagined.

Sleep Under the Stars - Looking up at a starry night sky is probably one of the most magical things that children can do. At some point, we have all wondered what it would be like to go into space and wonder what exists beyond our planet. We want all our children to unlock their adventurous spirit and to be curious about our amazing universe.

Hiking Heroes - Many children may not get regular opportunities to adventure in the great outdoors or face the challenge of climbing to a mountain peak. Through our Hiking Heroes promise, we want our children to engage in enjoyable and challenging experiences through the exhilaration of hiking as far, or as high, as possible.



Horsing Around - Riding a horse is an exhilarating experience for young children: rarely does a young person experience travelling at such a height and interacting so closely with such a large (and potentially formidable) animal.



Visit a Foreign Country - For many children, leaving home to visit a foreign country is only possible if our school arranges it. This promise will encourage our children to become independent, challenge them to explore, enable them to meet international people and experience new cultures.

Shake it up Shakespeare - All of Shakespeare's plays tell a story in an enlightening and absorbing manner, captivating the reader. Children of all ages can benefit from reading the works of this literary legend whilst inspiring them to gain knowledge about past histories and enhance their imaginations. Shakespeare is an important part of their secondary education. Gaining confidence with Shakespearian language and concepts at this early age will make future learning much easier.

# 10. Enrichment Opportunities and Educational Visits

At Heath Hayes Academy, we believe that providing children with enriching, memorable opportunities should be an underpinning element of their educational experience. That is why we strive to ensure that all children, no matter their circumstance, can access a range of enriching, valuable experiences during their time with us- whether in school, in our local area, or further afield.

As part of our educational experiences promise, we ensure that all children within our school have at least two paid trips a year and multiple opportunities to explore their local area. We continually focus on community links with different businesses, such as our local nursing home, post office, and the library, in order to provide the children with different life opportunities, as well as searching for different educational opportunities that relate to our learning adventures.

# Chasing the Futures Partnership

Working in partnership with our local high school, Kingsmead, and 6 other local Primary Schools we have been able to offer even more opportunities to our children to learn. Through our partnership each class aims to visit Kingsmead three times, yearly, to make connections with the school, and to provide new, exciting educational opportunities delivered by specialist staff.

# 11. Sustainability & Climate Change Education

At Heath Hayes Academy, we are passionate about the environment, using education and climate protection projects to work towards a greener future for all. We have been involved in some amazing, groundbreaking initiatives, inspiring others to make a change. We are proud to have become a sustainability pilot school within the REAch2 trust, enabling staff to complete extensive training through the Climate Wise Schools program. The whole school also worked with other schools in Cannock to take part in "The Great Imagining" community project, raising awareness about climate change. All staff are now 'Carbon Literate' having completed carbon literacy training. Our Climate Change Education leaders are working in partnership with Learning through Landscapes, focusing on our school grounds.

Within the school we have a dedicated team of Eco warriors, comprised of staff and students, as well as active travel ambassadors. Our Eco Warriors have complete community projects and litter picks. Our team of Travel Ambassadors within the school, regularly advocate more sustainable travel choices, promoting walking, scooting and cycling to school. They have taken part in anti-idling campaigns, encouraging parents and carers to turn off their engines.

As part of our Hero's Curriculum, all children learn about climate change and sustainability, through various adventures throughout the school year.

# 12. School Council

Heath Hayes Academy have School Councilors, allowing our pupils to have a say in their school. Two children from each year group are elected by their peers, after applying to be a member of the school council. This process allows the pupils to explain why they believed they would make a good role model for their peers. The successful candidates are then voted for, by their classmates, duplicating the process of an election, and teaching the children about democracy.