**TOOT HILL SCHOOL**

**Year 11 Personal Development Curriculum**

**“The whole purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows” – Sydney J. Harris**

Our Personal Development Curriculum is carefully created to be ambitious for all students. Through attentively constructed, broad and balanced discussions, students will review sensitive matters, raise awareness of important global topics and deepen their understanding of the curriculum. As a result, our students will be encouraged to showcase themselves as role models for the whole school community. They will challenge perspectives on controversial issues such as power dynamics, sexuality and racism. They will model exemplary behaviour and showcase this through their guidance of the younger year groups. All while embarking on the next step of their Toot Hill journey, within which they take on their final exams, and the much-anticipated Year 11 prom.

Students will be guided to consider their positionality not just in Toot Hill, but also in the wider community, therefore enabling each student to practice making well-informed and mature decisions. Our fundamental aim of instilling a strong moral compass will be complimented by the support and guidance of the tutor team, who will provide a purposeful overview of key topics during Personal Development lessons. Challenging stereotypes, discrimination and other negative views will allow our students to grow into ambassadors within society as well as within school. Our Prefects will embody the school ethos of Work Hard, Be Kind, Take Pride and they will take this role on with confidence and gratification. These students will be carefully selected for their inspiring and relatable characters, it is pivotal to our vision that our Prefects lead the Year group with ease and integrity.

Values of empathy, compassion and kindness are at the heart of our vision, alongside an intrinsic understanding of positive well-being and mindfulness. The engagement of Year 11 alongside the expertise of staff will allow students to provide a pathway for future year groups. Our intention is for students to leave a legacy that will set the foundations for their successors – appreciating what it means to empower others. Students will strive for this commendable achievement and will hold it in the highest regard.

As our Year 11 scholars approach their examinations, we are fully committed to supporting them through a bespoke program in preparation for future work and study. With the unique intensity of the workload that Year 11 brings, this curriculum will deepen our students’ scholarship skills inside and outside the classroom. Students will be supported to become the best version of themselves with relation to academia, character and future ambitions. With growing levels of confidence and maturity, students will flourish to be resilient, motivated, independent learners and understand the value of self-regulation and accountability. High aspirations will be at the forefront of our thinking as students are given the self-assurance needed to make informed decisions regarding their post-16 destinations and beyond. Students should have a strong sense of motivation and focus on achieving their goals and will be encouraged to ‘dream big’ when embarking on potential future career paths and further education.