Health and wellbeing 3-18 curriculum impact report

Leadership in Auchinleck Academy, East Ayrshire

In Auchinleck Academy a depute head teacher has overall responsibility for health and wellbeing within the school. However, the school recognises that the best way to truly embed health and wellbeing is to proactively promote it as everyone’s responsibility. Leaders in the school have achieved this aim in a variety of ways. Each member of the school’s senior leadership team has responsibility for an aspect of embedding health and wellbeing across the school. This includes overseeing developments in health and wellbeing policy, curriculum, self-evaluation, partnership-working, wider achievement and career-long professional learning. The impact of adopting this this proactive and inclusive leadership approach ensures that each member of the senior leadership team is clear about their role in improving health and wellbeing, sees the value in this endeavour and is committed to improving outcomes for young people.

Principal teachers across the school take the lead in embedding health and wellbeing within their departments. As a result, a strong focus on health and wellbeing is evident through interdisciplinary learning opportunities and through a focus on developing young people’s skills for life, learning and work and leadership. Health and wellbeing is kept at the top of the school’s agenda by the work of the Health and Wellbeing Committee, which includes staff members from the different departments in the school. This has resulted in a cohesive and planned approach to delivering the health and wellbeing experiences and outcomes which is constantly evolving, in line with the needs of the young people and the community.

Young people themselves in Auchinleck Academy have the opportunity develop their leadership skills in a variety of ways. Many achieve success in leadership courses in the senior school. Initiatives such as the Duke of Edinburgh and John Muir award schemes, S3 leadership residential course and sports ambassador programmes also offer young people the chance to develop their own leadership skills, improve their own health and wellbeing, and have a positive influence on younger pupils. Young people report that they feel better equipped with the skills and attributes they need to help improve their learning in school and beyond.