

**Personal Development**  
**Program (P.D.P)**  
**Curriculum Intent**  
**2024-25**

# P.D.P. Curriculum Intent

The Personal Development program at Huntington is bespoke to the Sixth form. The aim is to provide Sixth form students with the opportunities to expand their knowledge and experiences beyond A level/Level 3 study and get actively involved in worthwhile events. Thus developing students confidence, support their wellbeing and personal growth, enrich their wider education, provide them with vital work experiences that will help them stand out from the crowd with all future applications and interviews.

All Sixth form students participate in P.D.P. activities every Wednesday afternoon as part of their Sixth form provision. Over the two years students have the opportunity to select from a wide range of specially designed P.D.P. options and achieve Bronze, Silver and Gold level student leadership accredited awards.

# Department of Education (DFE) requirements

## **The DFE states :**

*“Work experience is a key component of 16 to 19 study programmes. The term work experience refers to all forms of work-related activity including work tasters, running a student enterprise, participation in social action, volunteering or a work placement taken with an external employer.”*

## **It also recognises the following:**

### *“Other non-qualification activity*

*All students are expected to take part in other meaningful non-qualification activity alongside work experience. This should take account of their needs and career plans, as well as preparation for adult life more generally. For example:*

- activities to develop confidence, character and resilience*
- group work to develop team working, communication skills, leadership and problem solving – skills that employers often say are lacking in school and college leavers*
- tutorials and seminars (including careers education)*
- life skills, such as: the ability to travel independently, how to cook and eat healthily, stay safe, personal finance, or preparation for adult or university life.”*

# P.D.P options - Meeting the needs of our Students

In order to ensure we, at Huntington, are fully meeting the needs of our Sixth form students and, in turn, the requirements of the Department for Education we have put together a carefully constructed curriculum that both provides work experiences and meaningful non-qualification activities. The package includes:

- Enterprise
- MasterChef
- Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme Bronze and Silver
- Music
- Drama
- Work placement and volunteering
- Link group – collaboration between senior citizens in the local community and students
- Creative arts
- Unisex sport
- Amnesty
- Learning support
- Sports leadership
- Debating
- Sustainability

# The options – a brief outline

(DFE sub-headers shown in white font)

## **Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme: Silver – Youth social action, Volunteering**

Volunteering, physical challenges, skills building, plan and experience a 3 day expedition. Builds confidence, happy healthier life style, lasting friendships, stand out from the crowd by achieving the Silver award.

## **Business and enterprise – Student enterprise**

Offers the opportunity to work with local and national initiatives whilst planning and developing exciting business support and fund raising to achieve real outcomes. Builds skills in communication, leadership, creative thinking, problem solving, money management, collaboration.

# The options – a brief outline cont'd

## **Creative arts - meaningful non-qualification activity**

Chance to work as part of a creative team producing artwork such as set design and build for productions. Improve school and external environments with artwork. Help others to access some art workshops by planning and delivering. Broaden horizons, develop interpersonal skills by working with people of all ages.

## **Music and Drama - meaningful non-qualification activity**

Music and Drama work together and independently to produce a number of community theatre productions thorough each year. Guided by staff students have the opportunity to build a skillset in choreography, writing, sound lighting, acting dancing and performing as musicians. Team work , creativity, confidence and long lasting memories as well as wellbeing are all positive outcomes of taking part in these options. Performances are rehearsed, polished and presented both within school and the wider community.

# The options – a brief outline cont'd

## Activity for All- meaningful non-qualification activity

Opportunity to experience a whole host of sports both inside and outside of Sixth form. Further develop coordination, health and fitness be part of a team and collaborating with other year groups.

## MasterChef - meaningful non-qualification activity

Develops cooking skills, team work. Provides opportunities to cook for the wider community as well as expand a great repertoire of recipes to use to impress at University or beyond.

## Sustainability – Youth social action

Increase the biodiversity of the school, improve recycling and awareness around the school e.g. ban the sale of plastic bottles on site, community litter picks, Reducing litter on site. Generally making the school a more sustainable place as well as the community. Beach combing has also been achieved so students work beyond their local area.

# The options – a brief outline cont'd

## Link group - Youth social action

A well established option of 20 plus years. This provides the students with the opportunity to work with senior citizens from the local community, plan and organise internal and external events and activities. Builds skills in communicating with a diverse range of generations, active listening skills, patience, generosity of spirit.

## Work placement and volunteering

Personalised work experience, meaningful volunteering opportunities , online and placement based training. Careers support and guidance leading towards a full and interesting CV and University application.

## Amnesty - Youth social action

Students use their interests and talents to raise money and awareness from human rights campaigns. Historically, students have organised music and speaking events at local venues. Letter writing campaigns; assemblies; petitions; documentaries; article writing; and a classic Christmas cake sale!

Skills: Leadership / organisation / team work / research / public speaking / creative thinking / interpersonal / design / communication / management / delegation / meeting deadlines / independence / fundraising.

# The options – a brief outline cont'd

## Learning support – Volunteering

Students use their A level subject knowledge to go into KS3 lessons of the same subjects and support those pupils who need that extra bit of help. Patience, kindness, maturity, good interpersonal skills are all key qualities needed for option. Students also have the opportunity to support during form times with general pupil organisations – being ready to learn and paired reading as well as paired maths.

## Sports Leadership - Volunteering

Provides responsible, motivated and confident young people with experience of planning and leading sports activities and fitness sessions. Organise and run sports competitions and deliver sports activities in our local primary schools. Sports Leadership is a fun and practical experience with opportunities to volunteer at School Sports Partnership events, and enjoy the hands-on delivery of sports in local primary schools. It is also useful to enhance personal statements and CVs, especially for the coaching, teaching, youth work or leisure industry. Actual certified qualification is achieved at the end of this option.

## Debating - Youth social action

Constructing and researching critical arguments for topical debates. Competing in peer group and inter-schools competitions. Debating provides confidence, knowledge, encourages political, ethical, enquiring minds.

# Course Overview

DATE	YEAR 12	YEAR 13
September - Feb	Opt and commence 1 <sup>st</sup> P.D.P. option	commence 3 <sup>rd</sup> P.D.P. option
Feb - July	Opt and commence 2 <sup>nd</sup> P.D.P. option. Opt again for Yr 13	Revision – compulsory, supervised study. Runs until official leaving date.

# Truly Great Teaching in P.D.P.

**Students should experience and expect the following from the experienced team of P.D.P. tutors.**

- High expectations of all students to be the best they can be.
- Extra-curricular activities.
- Support for all students in building essential life skills in and outside of Sixth form community.
- Problem solving with students.
- Encouragement and support towards gaining accredited qualifications in every option.
- Use of effective communication to support students to become independent, resilient and curious individuals.
- Well planned and delivered enrichment provision.
- Guidance which allows students to become independent learners and take ownership of outcomes beyond the restraints of A level/Level 3 study.
- A challenging, thought provoking safe and supportive environment in which to develop.

# Feedback

Whilst there is no assessment for P.D.P. students regularly receive feedback and P.D.P. becomes an important part of all UCAS applications and C.V.s.

External employers, who have provided work experience, are now asked to provide a brief reference and students are also required to self-evaluate.

Students document their own progression weekly in a journal and this is regularly discussed with both their form and PDP tutors.