



AYLESBURY HIGH SCHOOL

**CITIZENSHIP IN THE
SIXTH FORM**

**A guide to opportunities for
active citizenship**

**CITIZENSHIP
AT
AYLESBURY HIGH SCHOOL**

Student Handbook

Years 12-13

2005 - 06

Pupil's name _____

Tutor group _____

CITIZENSHIP AT AYLESBURY HIGH SCHOOL

Welcome to Citizenship at Aylesbury High School!

You have studied Citizenship as a National Curriculum subject up to Year 11, and you will now be able to continue to develop your knowledge and skills post-16. This booklet is designed to make you aware of all the opportunities which are available to you in the Sixth Form at AHS and in the wider community, which will help you to develop your understanding of Citizenship.

What is Citizenship?

Citizenship aims to equip all young people with the knowledge, understanding and skills to participate effectively in society as informed, critical, socially and morally responsible citizens, convinced they can have influence and make a difference in their communities, locally, nationally and globally.

How will I learn about Citizenship?

Many aspects of Citizenship are taught during the tutorial programme on Tuesday mornings. It is also offered at AS level, and there are many opportunities to engage in the life of the school and the wider community. In Year 13 you will take part in community involvement, and a series of current issues lectures will introduce you to different ways of thinking about society and politics.

Why do I need to learn about Citizenship?

Citizenship will help you to:-

- ✓ gain the self-confidence to live happily in society
- ✓ learn how to become helpfully involved in the life and concerns of your school, neighbourhood and community
- ✓ learn about how our democracy works and how you as a citizen can make yourself effective in public life - locally, regionally and nationally

LEARN HOW TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

How will I learn about Citizenship in Years 12 and 13?

We have developed a whole-school approach to Citizenship at Aylesbury High School and the subject is taught in the following ways :-

- through the tutorial programme and PSHE
- across the curriculum, through other subjects and through extra-curricular activities
- through assemblies and citizenship events
- through AS Level Citizenship

Citizenship education is much more than learning about how political systems, local government, etc. operate. It is about giving you the knowledge and skills to be able to play a role in democratic processes at different levels, from the local and national to the European and international. It is vital that you play an active part in your own learning so that you can transfer your skills and the confidence this brings to whatever public arena you may enter now and in the future.

Sixth Form students are given numerous opportunities in school to be as active and participating as possible, e.g. in assemblies, house events and competitions, music, art, drama and dance events, sporting events, fund raising and charity events, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, Young Enterprise and Community Involvement, in the school council and in peer-led education. Your community activities outside school are also recognised and encouraged.

What Sixth Formers have said citizenship means to them...

Citizenship means ...

'...being a part of society.'

'...learning that I have opinions and am interested in issues I'd never thought of before.'

'...having fun developing new opinions and meeting new people.'

'...being a part of something bigger.'

'...It's a chance for me to debate things which either don't get raised or don't get discussed in other lessons.'

Summary of Citizenship Activity at AHS

ACTIVITY	HOW ACCESSED
Head Girl, 4 members of the Cabinet and School Council	Democratically elected each year by Year 12 students and all staff
House captains and 2 deputies x 6 houses	Democratically elected each year by students throughout the school and staff
House captains and deputies for house events, e.g. House Drama, House Music, sporting events	Democratically elected each year by students throughout the school
Sixth Form Committee	Representatives from each tutor group, elected by their tutor group
Community involvement	Placements offered to every student in Year 13
Current Issues	Programme of visiting speakers for 2 terms, attended by Year 13 students who evaluate the programme each year
Transcontinental group	Volunteers who work to forge links between partner schools in Kenya and India
Duke of Edinburgh (silver and gold medal)	Volunteers
Year 12 and Year 13 Peer-led educators	Volunteers who prepare and deliver lessons on Drug Education, Political Literacy and Citizenship to younger learners
Web-site group	Volunteers from Years 12 and 13 who continue to build the Citizenship Internet web-site
Conference Planning group	Volunteers who are planning a Citizenship conference for Post-16 learners in the Aylesbury area to take place in July, 2006
Assessment policy group	Volunteers who work with staff to create a Citizenship assessment policy for AHS
Citizenship Policy group	Volunteers who work with staff to review and amend the Citizenship Policy for AHS
AS Citizenship	One-year course available to all Year 13 students in 2005 - 2006
AS and A2 Politics	Available to all students in Years 12 and 13
Year 12 and Year 13 tutor period Citizenship units	Available to all Year 12 and 13 students and suggested by students. Topics include pollution and local transport policy, crime and public safety.
Work Shadowing	Placements available to all Year 13 students
SHARE	Sixth Form volunteers who lead a team of mentors drawn from Years 9 - 13 to provide support to pupils with problems

SOME USEFUL WEBSITES

You may want to look up some of these sites on the Internet if you need information for an assembly or for your Citizenship Activity.

Amnesty International	www.amnesty.org.uk
Citizenship Foundation	www.citfou.org.uk
Community Service Volunteers	www.csv.org.uk
British Youth Council	www.byc.org.uk
Channel 4 Education	www.4learning.co.uk
Charter 88	www.charter88.org.uk
Children's Express	www.childrens-express.org.uk
Christian Aid	www.christian-aid.org.uk
	www.globalgang.org.uk
Comic Relief	www.comicrelief.org.uk
Consumers' Association	www.which.net
Council for Education in World Citizenship	cewc@wcia.org.uk
European Union	www.europa.org
Fairtrade Foundation	www.fairtrade.org.uk
Friends of the Earth	www.foei.org/
Global Dimension	www.globaldimension.org.uk
Global Express	www.dep.org.uk/globalexpress
Hansard Society	www.hansard-society.org.uk
Institute for Citizenship	www.citizen.org.uk
Local Government Information	www.lgiu.gov.uk
Newswise	www.dialogueworks.co.uk/newswise
Oneworld	www.oneworld.net
OXFAM Education	www.oxfam.org.uk/coolplanet/
Parliamentary Education Unit	www.explore.parliament.uk
Refugee Council	www.refugeecouncil.org.uk
Save the Children Fund	www.oneworld.org/scf/
Scope	www.scope.org.uk
Shelter	www.shelter.org.uk
Street Child Africa	streetchildafrica@hotmail.com
Tidy Britain Group	www.tidybritain.org.uk/
TUC	www.tuc.org.uk/
UNHCR	www.unhcr.ch
UNICEF-UK	www.unicef.org.uk

CITIZENSHIP

Here you can record your participation in Citizenship activities.

1. Participating in the school community

Have you represented other pupils in the school council and put forward their views?

Have you greeted visitors to the school and shown them round?

2. Working with other pupils

Have you been involved in mentoring younger pupils, or running school clubs?

3. School events

Have you contributed to sports, arts, House or other events?

4. Environmental projects

Have you been involved in any projects which contribute to the development or improvement of the environment of the school or the wider community?

CITIZENSHIP

5. The wider community

Have you helped with Harvest Festival or contributed to the old folks party? Have you organised Good Cause or other fundraising? What has been your community involvement?

6. Local and national government

Have you contributed to Local Agenda 21. or to any local or national programme? Have you written to your MP or local councillor? Have you been a member of the Youth Parliament?

7. International activities

Have you been involved with other countries either through visits, electronic mail or other means?

