

Dear Parents/Carers,

The initial part of our consultation on our new Relationships, Sex and Health Policy has concluded. Many thanks to those of you who have taken the time to respond with your views and support. Any comments coming late to this process, will of course, be added into our considerations.

I am happy to let you know we are now able to share the next steps in the process with you all.

September 2020

PSHE will continue to be taught throughout the school, just as it is at present. This will be supported by our P4C sessions, the Jigsaw scheme of work, and whole school Values, which underpin all our subjects. There will be a focus on mental health, rebuilding and establishing relationships as we return to school after such a long time away. The second draft of the policy will be available on the school website for parents to view and feedback on. This will be a two-week consultation. Paper copies will be available.

We hope to hold a series of information workshops where the proposed Relationship and Sex Education content of our PSHE curriculum will be shared and parents will have the opportunity to feedback. If it is not possible to do this due to the ongoing COVID 19 restrictions, then this will be available on line.

October 2020

Whole school overview of PSHE curriculum to be available on school website. This will include where Sex Education is taught and what will be taught in each year group. It will also include where Relationships Education will be taught and what will be covered in each year group. Parents will be invited to feedback.

Final draft of RSHE policy to be shared with parents before being ratified by governors.

FAQs

What is PSHE ?

Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Education is a school subject through which pupils develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they need to manage their lives, now and in the future.

These skills and attributes help pupils to stay healthy, safe and prepare them for life and work in modern Britain. When taught well, PSHE education helps pupils to achieve their academic potential, and leave school equipped with skills they will need throughout later life.

What is Relationship Education?

The focus in primary school should be on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships, with particular reference to friendships, family relationships, and relationships with other children and with adults.

This starts with pupils being taught about what a relationship is, what friendship is, what family means and who the people are who can support them.

From the beginning of primary school, building on early education, pupils should be taught how to take turns, how to treat each other with kindness, consideration and respect, the importance of honesty and truthfulness, permission seeking and giving, and the concept of personal privacy.

Establishing personal space and boundaries, showing respect and understanding the differences between appropriate and inappropriate or unsafe physical, and other, contact – these are the forerunners of teaching about consent, which takes place at secondary level.

(DfE Relationship Guidance 2019)

Why am I being asked about this?

Today's children and young people are growing up in an increasingly complex world and living their lives seamlessly on and offline. This presents many positive and exciting opportunities, but also challenges and risks. In this environment, children and young people need to know how to be safe and healthy, and how to manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way. This is why the government is making Relationships Education compulsory in all primary schools in England and Relationships and Sex Education compulsory in all secondary schools, as well as making Health Education compulsory in all state-funded schools. We want to ensure that our curriculum reflects the diverse community in which we live and continues to support and celebrate our differences.

I don't want my child to take part in Sex Education at school. What can I do?

If you do not want your child to take part in some or all of the lessons on Sex Education, you can ask that they are withdrawn. At primary level, the head teacher must grant this request. The science curriculum in all maintained schools also includes content on human development, including reproduction, from which there is no right to withdraw.

I don't want my child to take part in Relationships Education at school. What can I do?

You cannot withdraw your child from Relationships Education because it is important that all children receive this content, covering topics such as friendships and how to stay safe.

How will I know what they are learning about?

Once the consultation is complete the termly overviews for each year group will be available on the school website.

What is 'Jigsaw' and why are the school using it?

Jigsaw is a scheme of work which covers personal, health, relationships and physical and mental health and wellbeing. Each year children will cover 6 units: Being Me in my World, Celebrating Difference, Dreams and Goals, Healthy Me, Relationships, and Changing Me. These are largely in line with the SEAL scheme of work and PSHE units of study previously used to teach PSHE. The enquiry based nature of the materials complements our P4C and Discovery RE scheme of work. The Relationships unit will be taught in the summer term each year and will reflect the statutory curriculum requirements for Relationship Education.

Who will be teaching it?

Lessons will usually be delivered by the class teacher. The school nurse may be available for some sessions in Yr 5 & 6 for Sex Education but parents can opt out of this if they choose, through writing to the head teacher.

When will my child be taught Sex Education?

The Jigsaw scheme has a unit of work called 'Changing Me' which is taught in the Summer term. Non-statutory elements of RSHE will not be taught until the consultation period with parents is complete.

Where can I find out more about the Statutory Requirements?

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education/relationships-education-primary>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education/physical-health-and-mental-wellbeing-primary-and-secondary>

With regards,

Julie Holland