

7 September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Personal Development

As you may already be aware, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) along with Health Education, is now part of the National Curriculum. From September 2021, your child will be taking part in dedicated PSHE and RSE sessions called Personal Development on Tuesday and Thursday of each week during an extended tutor time. Content will be delivered by your child's tutor, guest speakers and sometimes other teachers within the school.

Schools are required to consult with parents when developing and reviewing their policies for Relationships Education and RSE, which will inform schools' decisions on when and how certain content is covered. You will be receiving a letter inviting you to our Consultation Evening shortly.

The purpose of the upcoming curriculum is to provide knowledge and understanding of safe and healthy relationships based on respect. This is to encourage the development of safe and healthy relationships throughout life. The subject is designed to help children from all backgrounds build positive and safe relationships and to thrive in modern Britain. The curriculum will also cover health, mental health, wellbeing, finances, careers and preparing for the future.

You will be sent copies of the lesson content we will be covering in the weeks after the Consultation Evening.

You do have a right to withdraw your child from Sex Education delivered as part of RSE in secondary schools which, unless there are exceptional circumstances, will be granted up to three terms before your child turns 16. At this point, if the child themselves wishes to receive Sex Education rather than be withdrawn, the school should make arrangements for this to happen in one of the three terms before the child turns 16 - the legal age of sexual consent. Sex Education within Science lessons is statutory and students cannot be withdrawn from these.



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There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education at secondary level and we believe the content of these subjects – such as family, friendship, safety (including online safety) – are important for all children to be taught. However, we are confident you will share our enthusiasm for the successful implementation of the new PSHE curriculum, which we feel will benefit all our students. We are looking forward to sharing further information in due course.

You are welcome to contact me to discuss the programme further.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B White', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Miss B White
Head of Personal Development