

Dear parent and carer

Relationships and Sex Education

I'm writing to let you know that for three weeks from week commencing 30 November children from Year 1 to Year 6 will be taking part in lessons which will focus on the Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) aspect of our Living and Learning curriculum. This will be led by their class teachers.

"We take our responsibility around Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) very seriously. We teach RSE to all of our pupils as part of our personal, social, health, economic education curriculum (PSHE, or 'Living and Learning', as we call it). We want parents/carers and pupils to feel assured that RSE is delivered at a level appropriate to both the age and development of pupils, and to feel safe to voice opinions and concerns relating to the provision."

RSE policy, 2020

In Sphere Federation schools, we've provided RSE lessons successfully as part of Living and Learning for many years. Nationally from September 2020, all primary schools are required by law to teach [Relationships Education and Health Education](#).

Here's an overview of the teaching and learning that will take place in our school:

Year group	Key objectives
Year 1 Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relationships with friends and family Underwear Rule (Keeping myself safe) Understand and respect the differences and similarities between people Everybody needs to be cared for. How to care for others. Different types of families
Year 3 Year 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biological differences between male and female animals and their role in the life-cycle Biological differences between male and female children Growing and how they change from young to old Changes in the human life cycle Feeling good about being different Challenge stereotypes
Year 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the male and female parts of the body? What happens during puberty? (delivered to all, and including changes for all, and also for girls / boys separately) What happens to girls during puberty? / What happens to boys during puberty? (delivered in single sex groups) Why is personal hygiene even more important? How might emotions change? What kind of relationships are there? What is a healthy friendship? What is a respectful relationship (including online)? Why are families important? Are all families like mine?
Year 6	As Year 5 plus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is human reproduction? How do babies grow? What is consent? (including the legal age of consent and the message 'no means no')

Here's an overview of the vocabulary that we use in school. (Please note that some of this vocabulary is likely to be used at other appropriate times across the school year.)

	Will be used The words and phrases below will be used by adults and children in the teaching and learning process.	Will be referred to Some vocabulary will be used to support teaching and learning, especially about the use of appropriate language.	May arise We do not plan to teach but it may be appropriate eg to re-visit some learning, to clarify or re-teach some aspects.
Early Years			vagina, breasts, penis, testicles
Key Stage 1			vagina, breasts, penis, testicles, 'privates', willy, balls <i>eg 'balls' might be used initially in a conversation, but 'testicles' would be added when re-phrasing, when appropriate</i>
Key Stage 1 biology lessons	vagina, breasts, penis, testicles	'privates', willy, balls	other nicknames
Key Stage 2	vagina, breasts, penis, testicles, male genital parts, female genital parts	'privates', willy, balls	other nicknames
Y5 discrete RSE lessons around biological changes	as KS2 (above), plus: vulva, ovary, ovum, egg, fallopian tube, womb, uterus, menstruation, period foreskin, scrotum, sperm, ejaculation, erection, wet dream, love, relationship, family, marriage, support, caring, loving, consent, puberty, disease, infection, heterosexual, straight, gay, lesbian, homophobia/homophobic*	<i>nicknames for terms listed will be referred to in order to support the teaching and learning process, especially to teach children about appropriate, respectful language</i>	epididymis, bisexual, transgender, biphobia/biphobic, transphobia/transphobic, LGBT+
Y6	as KS2 (above), plus: sexual intercourse, to make love, to conceive, conception, pregnancy, cells, embryo, foetus, birth	<i>nicknames for terms listed will be referred to in order to support the teaching and learning process, especially to teach children about appropriate, respectful language</i>	all of the above, plus: umbilical cord
*Some words may be used as and when they are appropriate, regardless of age.			

You have the right to request that your child be withdrawn from some or all of the lessons that can be regarded as 'sex education'. For our school, this comprises lessons in Year 6 on what human reproduction is and how babies grow. Please see the government's factual guide to RSE for parents: [Understanding Relationships and Health Education in your child's primary school: a guide for parents](#). Any parent/carer wishing to withdraw their Year 6 child from RSE should contact me to discuss the matter. See page 6 of the Relationships and sex education policy for more information about your right to withdraw your child.

We know that you may have some issues / concerns. If you'd like to find out more, discuss any concerns, or speak to someone in more detail about the teaching and learning planned for this important aspect of your child's education, please contact us.

We're committed to working in partnership with parents. Recent parental feedback has indicated that the overwhelming majority of parents are highly supportive of our Relationships and Sex Education programme.

Regards

Karen Hague
Head of School