

Headteacher: Andrew Denham

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Dear Parents,

You may be aware that the Department for Education announced changes to relationships and sex education (RSE). These changes came into effect from September 2020 and all schools will be required to comply with the updated requirements.

We are in the process of reviewing our RSE curriculum and policy so we can be sure our RSE provision is appropriate for our pupils based on their:

- Age
- Physical and emotional maturity
- Religious and cultural backgrounds
- Special educational needs and/or disabilities

Part of this process is to consult with parents for their views on our curriculum and policy.

#### **What does the new guidance mean?**

The new RSE guidance focuses on healthy relationships and keeping children safe in the modern world. It also covers a wide range of topics relating to physical and mental health, wellbeing, safeguarding and healthy relationships. Learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, will give young people the information, skills and positive values to have safe, fulfilling relationships and will help them take responsibility for their own well-being, both now and in the future.

Here is the link to the DfE statutory guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education>

#### **How will this be delivered?**

For the last year we have been trialling a nationally recognised scheme of work called 'Jigsaw: The Mindful Approach to PSHE' and have found it very useful in our teaching and engaging for the children. It combines both the Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) curriculum. Jigsaw offers us a comprehensive, carefully thought-out programme which brings consistency and progression to our children's learning.

All teaching of PSHE and RSE takes place in a safe learning environment and is underpinned by our school ethos and values. A variety of opportunities are provided for pupils to ask questions to further their understanding and to find out more about what affects them personally.

All of the documentation relating to this topic can be found on Parent Page of our school website.

#### **Parent Consultation**

Please take the time to read our draft PSHE policy (including our position on RSE) and accompanying materials so that you can have an informed view of our approach. You can make any comments you have on the PSHE Curriculum Consultation Form on ParentMail. The consultation will be open until Friday 25 June 2021, whereupon the staff and governors will review the responses and consider any necessary changes that need to be made.

Please contact me directly if you have any questions or would like further clarification on anything.

Kind regards,

Andrew Denham