

16th December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As a part of your child's educational experience at Ropley CE Primary School, we aim to promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive programme of Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education that gives children and young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live healthy, safe, productive and fulfilled lives, both now and in the future.

As you may already be aware, the Department for Education has announced changes to Relationships and Sex Education following nationwide consultation. These changes will come into effect this academic year and all schools will be required to comply with the updated requirements. The statutory guidance can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education>

The new 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, well-being, safeguarding and healthy relationships.

Learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up will give children and young people the information, skills and positive values to have safe, fulfilling relationships and help them take responsibility for their own well-being.

Consequently, from the summer term 2021, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), along with Health Education, will be statutory and form part of the National Curriculum.

This means that we have been 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 disabilities

Whilst I am sure that there will be differences of opinion about this, we hope that consulting with you will help to inform our schools' decisions on when and how certain content is covered, and enable us to reach a general consensus. Consequently, as part of our curriculum review we would welcome your views on:

- Our draft policy for Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)
- When and how certain content within this subject is covered.



APPRECIATION ❤️ BELONGING ❤️ COMPASSION

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SCHOOL
MEMBER



What is taught, and how, is ultimately a decision for the school and consultation does not provide a parental veto on curriculum content as schools are legally required to teach the National Curriculum. The right to withdraw children from some lessons is explained in the FAQs which accompanies this letter.

We are currently in unprecedented times which makes it a little more challenging to consult with you. However, we will do so by the following means:

To help you understand the curriculum requirements, I have placed information on our website which I would encourage you to read. This includes:

- FAQ sheet,
- Our proposed draft Policy
- DfE guidance that outlines statutory requirements.

This can all be found on the Parents section of our website in a tab called RSE. Here you will also find a link to a questionnaire which will require your name and your child's name, with the following questions:

1. Are there any changes or additions that you think should be made to the RSE Policy?
2. Are there any changes or additions that you think should be made to the RSE Curriculum Outline?
3. Thinking about Relationships and Sex Education, what do you believe is the most important subject area that should be taught for different age groups/key stages and why?
4. Thinking about Relationships and Sex Education, is there an area that you think should not be taught for different age groups/key stages and why?
5. Would you like support on how to speak to your child about relationship and sex issues while at home?

Ropley CE Primary School will be starting their consultation process on 16th December and the consultation will close on the 15th January 2021.

Your views are very important to us and we will respond to you on the outcome of this process later next term. Once we have considered all the feedback the updated Relationships and Sex Education Policy will be uploaded to the school's website.

I hope this letter and attached information provides you with a good understanding of our RSE Policy and goes some way to alleviate any worries you may have. If you have any queries or concerns regarding the consultation process, please do not hesitate to contact the school via the admin email address with the title 'RSE'.

Yours sincerely,



Sarah Vittle
Headteacher