

April 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

As part of the ongoing health education programme your child receives in their Personal Development/Careers lessons, all students will, at some point in their five years with us, embark on Relationships and Sex Education lessons. This follows on from the work undertaken in Primary School and is taught using the spiral curriculum model; each new topic or focus building on from previous work, revisiting and reinforcing knowledge, skills and attitudes. This is in order to ensure that all students have access to factual information and opportunities to discuss issues which concern them as they develop from childhood into adolescence and ultimately, adulthood.

All of this work is taught from the perspective of self-respect; respect for each other; recognising different relationships; encouraging healthy equal relationships; knowledge of factual information on personal hygiene; puberty; menstruation; conception; contraception; risk-reduction in sexual activity and the law pertaining to sexual activity; the impact of pornography. Students will undertake a mixture of teacher-led sessions, demonstrations (including various methods of contraception in Year 9/10), videos followed by question and answer sessions - all delivered in a sensitive and age-appropriate style by their PD teachers, both skilled practitioners in this area of the curriculum.

Relationships and Sex Education remains non-statutory until September 2019; this means that you, as a parent, still have the right to withdraw your child from these sessions if that is your wish. In the event of this, in order for us to make alternative arrangements for your child during these lessons, we would ask that you contact the school and state that you would like them withdrawn from these lessons. It is important to point out that work on reproduction which is done in Science is statutory and, therefore, all students undertake those lessons.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this aspect of your child's education, please do not hesitate to contact either myself - Health Education Coordinator, or Mrs Surrey - Head of Personal Development/Careers.

Yours faithfully



Mrs Jane Yandell
Teacher of Personal Development (Health Education Coordinator)



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