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16 04 21

RE: NEW STATUTORY CURRICULUM OF RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION AND HEALTH EDUCATION 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

You may well have seen in the national and local press that certain elements of Personal Social Health Education (PSHE) are now compulsory. These are the areas of Relationship Education and Health Education. All schools should have implemented these curriculum changes by September 2020 but due to Covid restrictions and lockdowns the DfE delayed the statutory requirement to this year.

We know that certain topics within these curriculum areas may be sensitive by their very nature. We also know that elements of this curriculum have been misrepresented in the media and so we wanted to give you, our parent body, the correct information about the changes that are coming and the chance to view, not only the new legislation, but also the award winning resource we have chosen to support your children's learning within these key areas.

See below a link for the draft format – unlikely to change as there has been such widespread support from government, parents, schools and the Department for Education. If you would like to know more about what your child will be learning you can find it by following this link:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/781150/Draft_guidance_Relationships_Education_Relationships_and_Sex_Education_RSE_and_Health_Education2.pdf

Teaching Expectations for Relationship Education from page 19

Teaching Expectations for Health Education from page 31

To ensure your children get the very best teaching in these areas we have chosen to use an award-winning resource – 1decision. 1decision is part of Headway Education and has been kitemarked by the PSHE association – the effective governing body for the subject in the UK – as being a quality assured product. The 1decision resources have been developed over the past seven years and each module has been created by PSHE and Safeguarding experts together with schools, and most importantly children,

and can proudly say they are providing resources to schools in 39 counties. As a school we are proud to say we will be using these resources and you may like to find out more about them by visiting their website: www.1decision.co.uk

A good deal of the RHE curriculum is already in our PSHE curriculum and so it won't look that different. There are aspects to the curriculum that are mandatory and those that are suggested. For the moment, until our policy has been fully ratified, we will be teaching the mandatory aspects of the curriculum. In Y5 and Y6 we have always taught children about puberty (Y5) and reproduction in humans (Y6) – as has always happened, before these units are taught parents/carers will be informed so they know what is being covered. Whilst puberty – changes in adolescence is part of the Science curriculum that is statutory, Some aspects of Sex Education (ie conception and reproduction in humans) are non-statutory in primary school – parents will be able to request that their child is withdrawn from these specific lessons.

The IDecision resource is exceptional and all units have a wealth of teaching activities that are age appropriate for all aspects of the PSHE and RHE curriculum. Do have a look at the link above and once we are out of lockdown if any parent/carer would like to have a look at the booklets that all children have do let us know.

Kind regards

Viv Ainsworth-Brown
Headteacher

Jo Hargreaves
PSHE Lead