



MALCOLM SARGENT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Love To Learn

10 May 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

RELATIONSHIPS SEX AND HEALTH EDUCATION POLICY

You may be aware that the government has recently agreed on changes to the curriculum in Personal, Health and Social Education. My apologies for the length of this letter but in light of these recent proposals which have featured in the news over the past few months, I felt it best to provide as much information as possible to enable your involvement in the shaping of our new policy and curriculum prior to September 2020.

The changes require primary schools to **statutorily** (*ie parents do not have the right to withdraw children from these lessons*):

1. Deliver a comprehensive curriculum on **relationships** which is defined as *'teaching pupils about healthy, respectful relationships, focusing on family and friendships, in all contexts, including online, as well as developing an understanding of human sexuality'*.
2. Deliver a comprehensive curriculum on **health**, which is defined as *'teaching pupils about physical health and mental wellbeing, focusing on recognising the link between the two and being able to make healthy lifestyle choices'*.

These changes recommend that primary schools **non-statutorily** (*ie parents have the right to withdraw children from these lessons*):

3. Deliver a comprehensive curriculum on **sex relationships** which is defined as *'teaching pupils about healthy, respectful relationships, puberty and the journey into adulthood, and human reproduction'*.

We would like to consult with parents to help us to develop our curriculum in these areas, ensuring they are appropriate for our community and aspects of non-statutory education are delivered at age-appropriate levels taking suggestions from parents, staff and the latest research (links for which I have provided below).

To assist in this consultation, please find attached a copy of our draft consultation Relationships, Sex and Health Education Policy (RSE Policy). The policy is in line with Department for Education RSE Guidance due to be made statutory from September 2020. I have attached a link to this guidance for your information below:

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

Our draft policy also includes details of our Relationships, Sex and Health Education curriculum coverage in outline. To assist you in this consultation, you may also wish to see full curriculum lesson plans which are available on our website at the link below:

<https://www.malcolmsargentschool.co.uk/page/?title=Relationships+Sex+and+Health+Education+Policy&pid=142>

Please find information related to RSE research from appropriate bodies and from children, which has helped to shape the government's guidance and the current school PSHE Curriculum which covers the Relationships, Sex and Health. Our curriculum is called 'Jigsaw'. The link for further information on the curriculum scheme we deliver is also below:

<https://www.sexeducationforum.org.uk/resources/advice-guidance/principles-good-rse>

<https://www.sexeducationforum.org.uk/resources/evidence/sre-evidence>

<https://www.sexeducationforum.org.uk/resources/evidence/heads-or-tails-what-young-people-are-telling-us-about-sre>

<https://www.jigsawpshe.com/#introducing-jigsaw-3-11>

<https://www.sexeducationforum.org.uk/sites/default/files/field/attachment/SRE%20Advice%202014.pdf>

We would like to invite your comments and suggestions below, by the closing date of Friday 17 May.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Tim Cox
Vice Principal

Comments: