



Spalding Parish Church of England Day School

November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Relationships, Sex and Health Education Policy Parental Consultation

As a part of your child's educational experience at SPCEDS 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 have now come into effect, and all schools are 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, wellbeing, 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 needed in order to have safe, fulfilling relationships and to help them take responsibility for their own well-being.

Consequently, as of September 2020, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), along with Health Education, is now statutory and forms part of the National Curriculum.

Last year we went through the process of reviewing our RSE curriculum and policy so that we could be sure our RSHE provision was appropriate for our pupils based on their:

- Age, and physical and emotional maturity
- Religious and cultural backgrounds
- Special educational needs and disabilities

We have now had almost a full year of teaching under the new guidance. Whilst I am sure that there will be differences of opinion about the new content, we hope that consulting with you on what has



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gone well this year and any concerns you may still have 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 like to know your views on:

- Our revised policy for Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE)
- When and how certain content within this subject is covered.

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 Sex Education lessons is explained in the draft Policy which accompanies this letter. As this is taught in Year 6, we will provide an opportunity in the near future to view lesson materials so that you are able to make an informed decision.

Although the current situation facing the country is improving, our main priority is to ensure the safety of all of our parents, carers, children and staff, which makes it a little more challenging to consult with you. To help you understand the curriculum requirements, I have attached the information below alongside this letter. This information can also be found on our website, which I would encourage you to read. This includes:

- a summary of what all pupils are expected to know by the end of primary school,
- our revised Policy
- DfE guidance that outlines statutory requirements.
- a questionnaire via Google forms <https://forms.gle/gZSL1JciQb2NmtLh9>

Your views are especially important to us and we will respond to you on the outcome of this process later in term 2. Once we have considered all the feedback, the draft of the updated Relationships, Sex and Health Education Policy will be uploaded to the school's website, which will also set out the proposed curriculum and how you can give feedback.

I hope this letter and attached information 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 me via the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Deborah Newnham
PSHE Lead



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