

Our Ref: HHO/Year 7  
19<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you of some key information regarding the curriculum for Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE). You may be aware that as of September 2020 these three key areas are statutory which means all schools must deliver them. At Bishop Perowne we deliver these topics through our PSRE programme.

I have attached an overview of the topics, and when they will be taught to each year group, to this letter. Please be assured that we are following national guidance regarding age appropriateness for each of the topics. If you would like further information about any of the topic areas studied in Relationships, Sex and Health Education please contact Mrs Horovitz - [horovitzh@bishopperowne.co.uk](mailto:horovitzh@bishopperowne.co.uk)

The statutory guidance for RSE may be found at this address if you wish to view the full document: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education/relationships-and-sex-education-rse-secondary>

The statutory guidance for Health Education may be found at this address if you wish to view the full document: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education/physical-health-and-mental-wellbeing-primary-and-secondary>

As a school community, we are committed to working in partnership with parents and the overwhelming majority of parents continue to be highly supportive of the relationships and sex education programme. You do have the right to withdraw your child from the sex education elements of the PSRE curriculum. If you wish to exercise this right, you will be invited to discuss the withdrawal with a member of staff before a final decision is made. If your son/daughter is removed from sex education lessons at your request, you should be aware that this withdrawal would remain in place until three terms before your child's sixteenth birthday when they will be given the choice of returning to sex education lessons. This is in line with government policy. There is no option for withdrawal from the sex education element of Science lessons and no option for withdrawal from relationships or health education. Please note that lessons on consent form part of the relationships curriculum, not the sex education curriculum.

The teaching of some of these topics can be sensitive in nature and we would like to assure you that we work closely with the Well Aware team and the Designated Safeguarding Leads to provide support for students where necessary. Year Seven students will begin their first relationships education topic after October half term, this focuses on friendships, bullying and mental health and wellbeing. They will then study two further PSHE topics in the second half of the spring and summer terms. Students study Religious Education topics in the first half of each term.

A copy of our RSE policy may be found on our school website.

Thank you for your support with the teaching of these important topics.

Yours sincerely,

*Mrs Horovitz*

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