

Our Ref: HHO/Years 8-10
19th October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As a part of your child's education at Bishop Perowne Church of England College, we promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education programme. PSHE education is the curriculum subject that gives young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live safe, healthy, productive lives and meet their full potential. We teach PSHE through our PSRE curriculum and we cover the three main strands of PSHE education – Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), Health Education and economic education within our curriculum.

I am writing to let you know that during the second half of the autumn term your child's class will be taking part in lessons, which will focus on the relationships and sex education (RSE) aspect of this programme. I have attached an overview of our curriculum plan to this letter so that you can view which topics students will be studying. Students will also have opportunities to ask questions that help prepare them for relationships of all kinds in the modern world.

PSHE education is taught throughout the school in every year group and is monitored and reviewed regularly by the staff and governing body. All PSHE teaching takes place will take place in a safe learning environment and is underpinned by our school ethos and values.

As you are aware relationships, sex and health education are now statutory parts of the curriculum. 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 will 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 Safeguarding Officer to provide support for students where necessary.

A copy of our relationships and sex education policy may be found on the college website. You can also find further information about the PSHE curriculum on the PSHE curriculum page of the college website. If you have any questions about the curriculum content and/or resources used please contact Mrs H Horovitz – horovitzh@bishopperowne.co.uk.

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

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Horovitz

Mrs Horovitz - Head of RE
horovitzh@bishopperowne.co.uk
Direct Line: 01905 746850