



Britannia Community Primary School

Dear Parents/Carers,

As part of your child's educational experience at Britannia CP School, we aim to promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive taught programme of Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education that gives children and young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live a 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 will come into effect from September 2020 (which has been delayed until September 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic) and all schools will be 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 to have safe, fulfilling relationships and help them take responsibility for their own wellbeing.

Consequently, from September 2020 (postponed to September 2021), Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), along with Health Education, will be statutory, and form part of the National Curriculum.

This means that we have been reviewing our RSE curriculum and policy so we can be sure our RSE provision is appropriate for our pupils based on their:

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

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Whilst we are aware that there will be differences of opinions about this, we hope that consulting with you will help to inform our school's 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 your views on:

- Our draft policy for Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)
- 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 some lessons is explained in the FAQs which accompanies this letter.

We are currently in unprecedented times which make it a little more challenging to consult with you. To help you understand the curriculum requirements there will be a section on the PSHE page of the school website with the following information on:

- A summary of what pupils are expected to know by the time they leave primary school
- FAQ sheet
- Our proposed draft RSE policy
- DfE guidance that outlines the statutory requirements
- PSHE/RSE curriculum overview

There will also be a survey on School Spider with a variety of consultation questions

Your views are very important to us and we will respond to you on the outcome of this process later in the term. Once we have considered your feedback, the final RSE policy will be uploaded to the school's website, which will also set out the proposed curriculum and how you can feedback.

We hope that 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 the school.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Longstaff (Headteacher) and Mrs Isherwood (PSHE and Mental Health and Wellbeing Lead)