



14 December 2020

Dear Parent / Carers,

You will be aware that, as a part of your child's educational experience at Thomas Whitehead CE Academy, we aim to promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive taught programme of Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE) that gives our pupils the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live healthy, safe, productive and fulfilled lives, both now and in the future. From September 2020 the Department for Education is making Relationships Education and Health Education compulsory in all primary schools. Although it is not statutory to deliver sex education outside of the science curriculum at primary level, the DfE recommends that all primary schools should have a sex education programme in place. We have followed this advice and included it as part of Relationships, Sex and Health Education ensuring the following guidance is adopted: programme be tailored to the age, and physical and emotional maturity of pupils, and should ensure that boys and girls are prepared for the changes that adolescence brings, drawing on knowledge of the human life cycle. This will be taught during Summer Term 2021 through the programme Jigsaw.

What does the new guidance mean?

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, it will give young people the information, skills and positive values to have safe, fulfilling relationships and will help them take responsibility for their own wellbeing. All of the sessions will be age-appropriate and meet the needs of all pupils in the class. Please see the attached policy regarding the breakdown of the RSE curriculum by year group.

How will this be delivered?

This guidance will form part of our school's PSHCE education programme which is taught throughout the school in every year group from Pre School -Year 6 and is monitored and reviewed regularly by the staff and Regional Hub Board Governors. For more detail about the proposed PSHCE curriculum offer, please visit the school's website: [PHSE \(thomaswhiteheadceacademy.com\)](http://PHSE(thomaswhiteheadceacademy.com)) All teaching in PSHCE will take place in a safe learning environment and be underpinned by our school ethos and values. A variety of opportunities will be provided for pupils to ask questions to further their understanding and to find out more about what affects them personally.

What if I have questions?

To introduce parents to this concept and to ensure everyone is informed, we would like to review the draft policy and the statutory content of the relationships and sex education programme. As a school community, we are committed to working with parents. If you would like to find out more, make any comments or provide feedback on this draft policy, please email the school office on office@twa.dsamat.co.uk and address to Miss Mitra. Alternatively, please provide your comments in an envelope for the attention of Miss Mitra. The closing date for feedback is Friday 15th January 2021.

Yours sincerely,

Miss D Mitra

