

9th March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

You may be aware that changes were made to the PSHE and RSE curriculum in 2019 making Relationships Education compulsory for all pupils receiving primary education from September 2020. Due to Covid, this deadline was extended until Summer 2021 but this is now a requirement for schools. The Idle CE(A) Policy for RSE was in draft format on the school website for parent consultation from Autumn term 2021. This policy was approved by the school Governors in our meeting last week (3rd March 2022).

Parents/carers have the right to withdraw pupils from some elements of Sex Education but not from Relationships Education. In all schools, teaching should reflect the law (including the Equality Act 2010) as it applies to relationships. All schools may teach about faith perspectives on relationships and schools with a religious character may teach the distinctive faith perspective on relationships and a balanced debate may take place about issues that are seen as contentious.

To ensure that there is consistency of approach in teaching new elements of the curriculum we have purchased the Kapow scheme of work for PSHE and RSE. This is aligned to the National Curriculum and the PSHE Association materials which were currently in place. The scheme is widely used – in place in over 2800 primary schools in the UK – and the materials are clear and easy to use for class teachers to deliver the statutory elements of Relationships and Sex Education as part of the school PSHE scheme.

Content is fully integrated into programmes of study for PSHE rather than being taught as stand-alone lessons. Our SMSC (Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural) programme this term is Equality and Diversity and we have covered many aspects of the protected characteristics through worship and class discussion already. To complement this we have a programme of lessons taken from Kapow over the remainder of the half term on the theme of different families and citizenship. Any parents who would be interested in seeing these materials to aid discussion at home are encouraged to contact the classteacher to arrange this.

The weekly themes are: March 7th-11th: Stereotypes (Families and Relationships)
March 14th -18th: Families (Families and Relationships)
March 21st -25th: Diverse Communities (Families and Relationships)
March 28th – April 8th : Rights of the Child (Citizenship)

Many thanks

Mrs Mason
Headteacher