

# Giffards Primary School

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## 'Valuing Everyone As Learners'

Dear Parents/Carers,

1<sup>st</sup> July 2021

As a part of your child's educational experience, 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 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 2021 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/relationships-education-primary>

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 well-being.

Consequently, from 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

Whilst I am sure that there will be differences of opinion about this, we hope that consulting with you will help to inform our schools' 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 PSHE which includes Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

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 is explained in the policy and accompanying PowerPoint and video clip.

We are currently in unprecedented times however as a school community, which makes it a little more challenging to consult with you. To help you understand the curriculum requirements, I have placed information on our website which I would encourage you to read.

This includes:

- Our proposed draft Policy
- Foreword by the secretary of state
- DfE guidance that outlines statutory requirements.
- A powerpoint presentation for parents and link to a video explanation by Miss James
- A consultation questionnaire
- Guidance for parents

Giffards Primary School will be starting their consultation process on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July and ending on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July

### Consultation Questions

1. Having read our draft policy, how well do you think it meets its aims?
2. Looking at the coloured curriculum map are you satisfied that the content is appropriate?
3. Do you feel that this policy is fully inclusive?
4. Do you have any other comments you would like to make, or questions you would like to make about the draft policy?

Your views are very important to us and we will respond to you on the outcome of this process later this term. Once we have considered all the feedback, the draft updated Relationships and Sex Education Policy will be uploaded to the school 's website

I hope 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 N Haslam-Davis*

Headteacher