

17<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you may already be aware, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), along with Health Education (RSHE), is now forming part of the National Curriculum. Changes began in September 2020.

As part of Sir Bobby Robson school's wider Personal, Social and Health Education programme, your child has already, or will be receiving soon, lessons on relationships and personal safety. They will be receiving lessons on sexual health in the coming terms.

Schools are required to consult with parents when developing and reviewing their policies for Relationships Education and RSE, which will inform schools' decisions on when and how certain content is covered. However, due to current Covid restrictions, our consultation will take place via an online presentation. You will have opportunity to complete a questionnaire and voice any concerns, views, or questions you have in response to the presentation and the teaching of RSE. Attached to this letter is a PowerPoint consultation presentation for parents and carers. This outlines and explains the statutory requirements, SBRs PSHE/RSE curriculum plus the RSE policy, and what it means to you and your child.

The purpose of this curriculum is to provide knowledge and understanding of safe and healthy relationships based on respect. This is aimed at encouraging the development of safe and healthy relationships throughout life. The subject is designed to help children, from all backgrounds, build positive and safe relationships, and to thrive in modern Britain.

Attached is a copy of a draft RSE Policy together with an outline of what topics will be covered and when. Also attached is a parent/carers consultation and a copy of the parent consultation which is also available on our website.

You do have a right to withdraw your child from sex education delivered as part of RSE in secondary schools which, unless there are exceptional circumstances, will be granted up to three terms before your child turns 16. This right to withdraw will usually be granted, but only after discussions with the Headteacher. After that point, if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, the school should make arrangements to provide the child with sex education during one of those terms before the child turns 16 - the legal age of sexual consent.

This process is the same for pupils with SEND. However, there may be exceptional circumstances where the headteacher may want to take a pupil's specific needs arising from their SEND into account when making this decision.

There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education at secondary level and we believe the content of these subjects – such as family, friendship, safety (including online safety) – are important for all children to be taught. However, we are confident you will share our enthusiasm for the successful implementation of the statutory RSE curriculum as part of PSHE, which we feel will benefit all of our students. We are looking forward to sharing further information in due course.

We have set up a central RSHE mailbox to which you can direct any queries, comments, or questions via email. The address is as follows: [sbrs.rse@sbrschool.co.uk](mailto:sbrs.rse@sbrschool.co.uk).

The consultation period runs for 28 days, which means that any contact must be made by Friday 14 January 2022.

In the meantime, should you wish to research RSHE yourself, further information can be obtained from the following government website [Introduction-to-requirements for RSHE education](#) .

Yours faithfully,

**Adam Dabin**  
Head Teacher

Encs  
Draft RSE Policy  
Parent/Carer Questionnaire