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Headteacher – Mrs Judi Jackson

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Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: New statutory curriculum of Relationship Education and Health Education plus invite to information event **Thursday 10 June 2021 at 6pm**

You may well have seen in the national and local press that certain elements of Personal Social Health Education (PSHE) are to become compulsory. These are the areas of Relationship Education and Health Education. As a school we must have implemented these curriculum changes by September 2021. We know that certain topics within these curriculum areas may potentially cause concern for parents. We also know that elements of this curriculum have been misrepresented in the media and so we wanted to give you the correct information about the changes that are being implemented and the chance to view, not only the new legislation, but also the resource we have chosen to support your children's learning within these key areas.

If you would like to know more about what your child will be learning you can find it by following this link:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/908013/Relationships Education Relationships and Sex Education RSE and Health Education.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/908013/Relationships_Education_Relationships_and_Sex_Education_RSE_and_Health_Education.pdf)

The teaching expectations for Relationship Education can be found within the above document from page 19 and for Health Education from page 31.

The 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.

We have reviewed 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

As part of this process, we are consulting with parents, staff and governors to help inform our schools' decisions on when and how certain content is covered.

The consultation questions include the following:

1. Are there any changes or additions that you think should be made to the RSE Policy (attached)?
2. Are there any changes or additions that you think should be made to the RSE Curriculum Outline (Appendix 1 of attached policy)?
3. Thinking about relationships and sex education, what do you believe is the most important subject area that should be taught for different age groups/key stages and why?
4. Thinking about relationships and sex education, is there an area that you think should not be taught for different age groups/key stages and why?
5. Would you like support at home on how to speak to your child about relationships and sex education?

The consultation has opened today and is available online for you to provide your feedback until 4pm on Tuesday 8 June. Please click on this link to access: <https://forms.office.com/r/vfhDZhKiTd>

Whilst I am sure that there will be differences of opinion about this, we hope that consulting with you will help 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 also welcome your views on our draft policy for 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 from **some** lessons is explained in the policy which accompanies this letter.

To ensure your children get the very best teaching in these areas we have chosen to use an award-winning resource – 1decision. 1decision is part of Headway Education and has been kitemarked by the PSHE association – the effective governing body for the subject in the UK – as being a quality assured product. The 1decision resources have been developed over the past seven years and each module has been created by PSHE and Safeguarding experts together with schools, and most importantly children. As a school we are proud to say we will be using these resources and you may like to find out more about them by visiting their website: www.1decision.co.uk

We will be holding an information event on Zoom on **Thursday 10 June** at **6pm** when we will dispel the myths around the subject, showcase the new resources and answer any questions you may have. If you can't make the event but would like to know more, or ask questions, please email: headteacher@crayke.n-yorks.sch.uk

Yours sincerely,

Judi Jackson

Headteacher and RSE Subject Leader

Understanding Relationships and Health Education in your child's primary school: a guide for parents

We want all children to grow up healthy, happy, safe, and able to manage the challenges and opportunities of modern Britain. That is why, from September 2020, all primary age children will be taught Relationships and Health Education.

These subjects are designed to equip your child with knowledge to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships as well as preparing them for a successful adult life. The world for all young people looks very different from the way it did 20 years ago when this curriculum was last updated – these changes bring the content into the 21st century, so that it is relevant for your child.

Your child's school will have flexibility to deliver the content in a way that is age and developmentally appropriate and sensitive to the needs and religious background of its pupils.

Relationships Education

Relationships Education will put in place the building blocks needed for positive and safe relationships, including with family, friends and online.

Your child will be taught what a relationship is, what friendship is, what family means and who can support them. In an age-appropriate way, your child's school will cover how to treat each other with kindness, consideration and respect.

By the end of primary school, pupils will have been taught content on:

- families and people who care for me
- caring friendships
- respectful relationships
- online relationships
- being safe

You can find further detail by searching '**relationships and health education**' on GOV.UK.

Health Education

Health Education aims to give your child the information they need to make good decisions about their own health and wellbeing, to recognise issues in themselves and others, and to seek support as early as possible when issues arise.



By the end of primary school, pupils will have been taught content on:

- mental wellbeing
- internet safety and harms
- physical health and fitness
- healthy eating
- facts and risks associated with drugs, alcohol and tobacco
- health and prevention
- basic first aid
- changing adolescent body

You can find further detail by searching '**relationships and health education**' on GOV.UK.

Your rights as a parent

The important lessons you teach your child about healthy relationships, looking after themselves and staying safe, are respected and valued under this new curriculum. Teaching at school will complement and reinforce the lessons you teach your child as they grow up.

Your child's school is required to consult with you when developing and renewing their policies on Relationships Education. These policies must be published online and be available to anybody free of charge.

You can express your opinion, and this will help your child's school decide how and when to cover the content of the statutory guidance. It may also help them decide whether to teach additional non-statutory content. Schools are required to ensure their teaching reflects the age and religious background of their pupils.

Some schools will start to teach these subjects from September 2019 – if you'd like to know more, please speak to your child's school about what they plan to teach.



Right to withdraw your child

You cannot withdraw your child from Relationships Education because it is important that all children receive this content, covering topics such as friendships and how to stay safe.

Your child's primary school can choose to teach Sex Education. If you'd like to know more about this, we recommend speaking to the school to understand what will be taught and when. If you do not want your child to take part in some or all of the lessons on Sex Education, you can ask that they are withdrawn. At primary level, the head teacher must grant this request.

The science curriculum in all maintained schools also includes content on human development, including reproduction, which there is no right to withdraw from.





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for Education

If you want to know more about what will be taught as part of the new subjects, the best thing to do is speak to your child's school.