

East Hunsbury Primary School

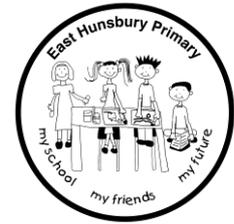
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19th May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

At East Hunsbury Primary SU we want to support our young people to develop the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills needed 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 came into effect from September 2020 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>

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 2020, 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.

As a school we will deliver our RSE curriculum through Jigsaw. This is a comprehensive and completely original Scheme of Work (lesson plans) for the whole primary school. More information of this can be found on our website under the curriculum tab in the RSE folder. In our Specialist Unit Provision to ensure an appropriate and individualised approach to Relationships Education we use a combination of the Jigsaw programme, SMILE bespoke lessons, our Life Skills Curriculum, NSPCC programme and SU developed units on 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. Parents have the right to withdraw children from some lessons of the jigsaw curriculum in the summer term that teach sex education in year 4, 5 and 6. Parents will be made aware of these lessons before they are taught, in order to opt out if required.

Headteacher: Mrs R Arundel



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, there is information on our website which I would encourage you to read. This includes:

- A summary of what all pupils are expected to know by the end of primary school
- Our proposed draft Policy
- DfE guidance that outlines statutory requirements
- Information on the Jigsaw scheme of work.

Consultation with families of children within the SU will start today (Wednesday 19th May 2021) – the consultation will close on Friday 28th May 2021. Consultation Questions:

1. Would you like support at home, on how to speak to your child about relationship and sex issues?
2. Are there any changes or additions that you think should be made to the RSHE 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?

Your views are really important to us and if you would like to answer the above questions, please [click here](#) to be taken to an online feedback form. We will read your views and will respond to parents, as a whole, on the outcome of this process later this term.

To view the policy and associated documentation, please [click here](#) to be taken to the curriculum page on the school website.

Alternatively, to request a paper copy, please email our school office on office@easthunsburyprimary.org .

Once we have considered all the feedback, the updated Relationships and Sex Education Policy will be uploaded to the school's website alongside the curriculum content.

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 and would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Kind regards,

Rita Arundel
Headteacher