

Friday 12th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you may be aware, the Department for Education has announced changes to Relationships and Sex Education (RSE). These changes, it has been confirmed, come into effect from the beginning of the Summer term 2021 and all schools will be required to comply with the updated statutory requirements.

Our PSHE leader (Mrs Jones) has been working on the new requirements and has been reviewing our RSE curriculum and policy so that we can ensure that our provision meets the Government criteria and is appropriate for our children based on their age, physical and emotional maturity, religious and cultural backgrounds as well as special educational needs and/or disabilities. Alongside this, we are making sure that it provides what pupils need to know to be healthy and safe in school, in their personal relationships and in the wider world.

In order to ensure that all the statutory requirements are covered throughout school in a sensitive and age appropriate way, we are now going to be following a scheme of work, provided by 'Coram Life Education' called 'SCARF' (Safety, Caring, Achievement, Resilience, Friendship). This scheme does not only ensure that the statutory objectives are taught but also combines them with additional PSHE objectives, ensuring our children are given the tools to become life-long learners and acquire personal skills and attributes to help them in their future lives.

In line with Statutory Guidance, parents and carers do not have the right to withdraw their children from Relationships Education or Health Education in Primary School. Parents still have the right to withdraw their child from primary school lessons which address sex education but only those elements which are not part of National Curriculum Science coverage. Puberty is covered as part of statutory health education so parents do not have the right to withdraw their child from these lessons.

We believe it is important to work in close partnership with parents and carers and we will communicate what is being taught and when it will be delivered, as well as highlight any further changes to our curriculum offer. We will also provide any further reading or support for any parents and carers wishing to discuss the objectives taught with their children at home.

It is a requirement that all schools consult with parents regarding the RSE (Relationships & Sex Education) curriculum and policy. We have therefore attached a questionnaire that we would like you to fill in in order to gain your viewpoints about the policy.

In order to participate, parents will need to visit our school website: <a href="http://www.gayton.wirral.sch.uk/website/rse">http://www.gayton.wirral.sch.uk/website/rse</a> consultation/548108 where you will find the following documents: '

- 1) Our proposed RSE 'Relationships & Sex Education' policy for parent/carer consultation.
- 2) A powerpoint which outlines the new requirements of the Relationships and Health Education elements.
- 3) Government guidance on the teaching of RSE and Health Education- this clearly states the statutory expectations for all primary schools.
- 4) A long term planning overview based on the SCARF curriculum we will be following.
- 5) RSE Primary School Guide for parents

These documents should provide parents with an overview of the introduction of the RSE curriculum. Once you have read the documents, we have prepared a questionnaire for parents to complete in order to gain your viewpoints about the policy. This questionnaire can be completed by clicking on this link: <a href="https://forms.gle/gZqeXksHVs5vTNMw6">https://forms.gle/gZqeXksHVs5vTNMw6</a>

If you don't have any comments or viewpoints about the policy, you do not need to fill in the form. The consultation will close on **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 at 5:00pm**.

Once we have considered all the feedback from parents/carers, the final policy will be shared with parents and uploaded to the school's website.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs McAleny