



27 April 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Nowadays there is a vast amount of, sometimes confusing, information about relationships and sex on the internet, on TV, in magazines, etc which young people may have access to, and this can sometimes make an already confusing time seem even more complicated! Therefore, as part of the school's Science and Personal, Social and Health Education programme your child will soon receive lessons on relationships, sexual health and puberty.

Our PSHE theme this term is 'Relationships' and through this we will deliver Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) which provides knowledge and understanding of how the human body changes during puberty and the processes of human reproduction, within the context of relationships based on love and respect. It should develop understanding and attitudes that will help pupils to form relationships in a responsible and healthy manner and to appreciate the value of stable family life, including the responsibilities of parenthood and marriage.

If young people can start their transition into adulthood with good information and the confidence and knowledge to understand what is happening to them, they will hopefully grow into confident and healthy adults able to make positive choices. This can start with learning the basics about growing up and the sessions in school may reinforce what you are already doing at home.

The key aims of SRE are to:

- 1 Provide accurate and relevant information about the physical and emotional changes that children and young people will experience through their formative years and into adulthood.
- 2 Establish an awareness of the importance of stable family life and relationships, including the responsibilities of parenthood and marriage.
- 3 Foster self-awareness and self-esteem.
- 4 Develop a sense of responsibility and respect for themselves and others.

The SRE programme includes watching a video from the Channel 4 *Living and Growing* series and input from the class teacher. All teaching materials are appropriate to the age and emotional maturity of the pupils concerned and the teachers will aim to present the lessons in an objective, balanced and sensitive manner.

The Science and PSHE programme will cover:

- 1 Love, Marriage and Relationships
- 2 Puberty
- 3 Menstruation
- 4 Personal Hygiene
- 5 Reproduction

You are welcome to contact your child's class teacher to discuss the programme or to view any of the teaching materials used.

Parents can withdraw their children from all or part of sex education that does not form part of the statutory National Curriculum. If you wish to withdraw your child from all or part of the schools sex education programme would you please write to your child's class teacher before the programme starts. Class teachers will begin the programme during the week beginning 7th May 2018.

For further information, please find enclosed a leaflet entitled SRE & Parents, published by the Department for Education and Skills.

I should be grateful if you would sign the reply slip below to acknowledge receipt of this letter and return the slip to school as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Lucy and Des

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I acknowledge receipt of a letter advising me that lessons on relationships, sexual health and puberty will begin on 7th May 2018.

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Name of child

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Signature of parent