

Norton Free Church of England Primary School

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Thursday 1st April, 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Department for Education announced changes to the relationships and sex education curriculum (RSE) which will come into effect in the summer term, 2021. This means that we have been reviewing our PSHE and 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

Relationship and Health Education is a statutory part of the curriculum and it is important that all children receive this content, covering topics such as friendships and how to stay safe. We have also chosen as a school to continue to teach Sex Education, as we believe this is an important part of all children's education. It enables us to ensure the content is taught sensitively and accurately, rather than through hearsay and often inappropriate/ inaccurate online 'content'.

We would like to take this opportunity to consult with parents to look at the new RSE curriculum and gather your views before the implementation of the new curriculum and policy. We are currently introducing a whole school PSHE scheme called 'Jigsaw' in order to deliver the RSE curriculum. Jigsaw combines PSHE, mindfulness, social skills and spiritual development. Jigsaw aims to help children know and value who they really are and how they relate to other people in this ever-changing world.

There are six half-term units of work each with six lessons. Every year group studies the same theme at the same time (sequentially ordered from September to July). This allows for whole school themes to be shared and celebrated across the school. Each year group is taught one lesson per week and all lessons are delivered in an age- and stage-appropriate way so that they meet children's needs.

We believe that our new curriculum reflects:

- Our pupils' age and maturity levels, as well as their cultural and religious backgrounds
- The values of our school community
- Every pupil's learning needs
- What pupils need to know to be healthy and safe in school, in their personal relationships and in the wider, ever changing world

Unfortunately, due to these unprecedented times we are still unable to hold a face to face group meeting with parents to discuss the policy. We would very much appreciate your feedback on our draft policy which you can find on our school website under KEY INFORMATION, RSE. Parents/carers are advised to read the policy and submit any questions to Mr Holland at dholland@nortonfree.sheffield.sch.uk

All feedback and questions will be addressed in the first two weeks of the summer term.

The deadline for responding to the consultation is **Friday 16th April 2021.**

Yours sincerely,

Mr Holland