



OXFORD DIOCESAN
BOARD OF EDUCATION

NORTH LEIGH C E PRIMARY SCHOOL



HEADTEACHER

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Dear Parents / Carers

As you may already be aware, The Department for Education announced changes to Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) following nationwide consultation for implementation during 2020-21. The full implementation of these changes has been delayed as a result of Covid and following the latest lockdown, the DfE has provided more flexibility around this, enabling schools to focus the remainder of this year's Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) teaching on the immediate needs of pupils. Our revised PSHE programme will be introduced in September 2021 when all schools will be required to comply with the updated requirements. The statutory guidance can be found [here](#).

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, well-being, 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 to take responsibility for their own well-being. Consequently, the teaching of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) along with Health Education (PSHE) is statutory and forms part of the National Curriculum.

We have always taught PSHE at North Leigh with a focus on the 3 core elements (one for each long term) - Relationships, Living in the Wider World and Health & Well-Being. You can find a copy of our current PSHE curriculum overview [here](#). We have been using materials from the [PSHE Association](#) and [3D PSHE](#) resources to help support our delivery. Mental Health and Well-Being teaching was introduced gradually from September 2019, with the support of our Home School Link Worker who has completed Emotional Literacy Support (ELSA) training. As part of our PSHE programme, the school nurse has in recent years been invited to visit both Year 5 and 6 classes in the summer term to support the teaching related to Growing and Changing: puberty, menstruation and reproduction. Letters regarding these visits by the nurse are always sent in advance to parents outlining what is to be covered.

The recent changes to Relationships and Sex Education mean we are currently reviewing our curriculum and policy so we can be sure our RSE provision is appropriate for our pupils based on their:

- o Age
- o Physical and emotional maturity
- o Religious and cultural backgrounds
- o Special educational needs and/or disabilities

Whilst I am sure that there will be some differences of opinion about this, we hope consulting with you will help to inform our schools' decision on when and how certain content is covered and enable us to reach a general consensus. To help you understand the updated curriculum requirements we need to meet, please do take a look at the summary of what all pupils are expected to know by the end of their time in primary school.

You can also see a draft copy of our RSE policy and our proposed RSE content overview. All these documents can be found together from a link on the home page of our [school website](#).

As part of our policy and curriculum review to meet the end of primary school expectations, you are invited to respond to these attached documents. Written comments via the school office by Monday 26th April are very welcome and will enable us to take account of parent's views when revising our PSHE provision in preparation for September. Your views are very important to us; however, final decisions will need to be for the school and the Governing Body 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 "DfE Understanding Relationships and Health Education in your child's primary school: a guide for parents" which accompanies this letter. We will respond to you on the outcome of this consultation process before the end of the summer term. Once we have considered the feedback, the finalised RSE policy will be uploaded to the school's website.

Further information about our PSHE curriculum and our new teaching and learning [Jigsaw PSHE](#) materials, also used successfully by many local schools, will be shared with you at our Curriculum Evening at the start of the new academic year.

Thank you for your time.

Yours sincerely

Elizabeth Mason
PSHE Lead