



Thursday 24th February 2021

Dear parents/carers,

As a part of your children's educational experience at Sun Hill Junior School, we aim to promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensively taught programme of Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education. This gives children and young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills 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 a change to the relationships and sex education format following a nationwide consultation. These changes will come in to effect from the Summer term 2021 and all schools will be required to comply with the updated requirement. 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 in relation 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 to take responsibility for their own well-being.

Consequently, from Summer term 2021, 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 some differences of opinion about this, we hope that by consulting with you, this will help to inform our school's decision on when and how certain content is covered, and enable us to reach a consensus. Consequently, we would like your views on when and how certain content within this subject is covered.

Whilst we are eager to take on board the views of the school community, what is taught, and how, we must reiterate that it is ultimately a decision for the school and consultation does not provide a parental veto on curriculum content. The right to withdraw a child from some lessons is explained in the presentation, which this letter links to <https://www.sunhilljs.net/our-curriculum>. We are also working with Sun Hill Infant School and Perins as part of the consultation process to ensure a comprehensive coverage of the curriculum across the key stages.

The times we find ourselves in currently make 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: <https://www.sunhilljs.net/our-curriculum>

There is then an anonymous questionnaire, which asks for your feedback to key questions and includes the opportunity to share any comments or questions. The questionnaire can be found here: <https://www.sunhilljs.net/our-curriculum>

We are asking that the questionnaire is completed by **Friday 19th March** 2021, after which time we will collate and review responses from all different sectors of consultation. We will then be in a position to feedback to you the findings of the consultation, actions we have taken and the format of our RSE curriculum moving forward.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to review this information and feedback provided to us on the questionnaire.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SG', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Mrs Sue Griffiths (Headteacher)

And Mrs Ali Ahmed (PSHE/RSE coordinator)

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