



The Federated Schools of Wood Street Infant School and Worplesdon Primary School



5th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re. Consultation with parents regarding Relationship & Sex Education

Worplesdon Primary School and Wood Street Infants are very proud to follow the JIGSAW PSHE curriculum; a comprehensive and robust programme of study for all pupils to support the teaching and learning of personal, social, health and emotional education. Whilst we have been teaching our PSHE (Learning for life) lessons following the JIGSAW sequence for two years, we would now like to review our coverage of RSE (relationship and sex education) to be more in line with JIGSAW and to ensure consistency and age-appropriate content.

We need your feedback to help us do this.

Here's how you can help:

We're running a parent consultation workshop on Wednesday 31st January 2024 – 3.30-4.15pm to go through the aims and objectives of our RSE curriculum and give you an opportunity to ask any questions. If you'd like to participate, please email or call the school office by Friday 26th January 2024

What must primary schools teach in Relationships Education, Health Education and Sex Education?

From September 2020, Relationships and Health Education are compulsory in all primary schools in England. For primary aged children this includes curriculum content under two headings (DfE 2019):

Relationships Education

Families and people who care for me
Caring Friendships
Respectful Relationships
Online Relationships
Being safe

Health Education

Mental wellbeing
Internet safety and harms
Physical health and fitness
Healthy Eating
Drugs, alcohol and tobacco
Health and prevention
Basic first aid
Changing adolescent body

This DfE guidance clearly states the statutory requirements, i.e. what children MUST be taught by the end of primary school. Health Education includes learning about 'the changing adolescent body' to equip children to understand and cope with puberty.

The National Curriculum for Science (also a compulsory subject), includes learning the correct names for the main external body parts, learning about the human body as it grows from birth to old age and reproduction in some plants and animals (which could include human beings).

So, Relationships Education, Health Education and Science are compulsory subjects and parents/carers do NOT have the right to withdraw their children from these subjects. It is up to primary schools to determine what is meant by 'Sex Education'. At primary school age, it is usually agreed to mean 'human reproduction', and can be taught within Science. If, however, it is taught within PSHE/RSHE parents have the right to request their child is withdrawn from these specific lessons. These specific lessons are taught as part of the 'Changing Me' unit.



The Federated Schools of Wood Street Infant School and Worplesdon Primary School



Jigsaw's 'Changing Me' unit is taught over a period of 6 weeks, usually in the second half of the summer term. Each year group will be taught appropriate to their age and developmental stage, building on the previous years' learning. Please note: at no point will a child be taught something that is inappropriate; and if a question from a child arises and the teacher feels it would be inappropriate to answer (for example, because of its mature or explicit nature), the child will be encouraged to ask his/her parents or carers at home. The question will not be answered to the child or class if it is outside the remit of that year group's agreed programme.

The Changing Me Puzzle is all about coping positively with change and includes:

- Reception (ages 4-5) Growing up: how we have changed since we were babies
- Year 1 (ages 5-6) Boys' and girls' bodies; correct names for body parts
- Year 2 (ages 6-7) Boys' and girls' bodies; body parts and respecting privacy (which parts of the body are private and why this is)
- Year 3 (ages 7-8) How babies grow and how boys' and girls' bodies change as they grow older. Brief introduction to puberty and menstruation
- Year 4 (ages 8-9) Internal and external reproductive body parts. Recap about puberty and menstruation is revisited with more detail. Conception explained in simple terms
- Year 5 (ages 9-10) Puberty for boys and girls in more detail including the social and emotional aspects of becoming an adolescent. Conception explained in simple biological terms
- Year 6 (ages 10-11) Puberty for boys and girls revisited. Understanding conception to the birth of a baby. Becoming a teenager

All lessons are taught using correct terminology, child-friendly language and diagrams.

We look forward to working with you to design a curriculum that meets the needs of our children across the federation of schools.

Best wishes,

Learning for Life Team