



Monday 03 June 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers

Information regarding the teaching of Relationships Education, Sex Education and Health Education

As you may be aware, from information sent out in the Autumn Term 2023, we use a programme called "Jigsaw: the mindful approach to PSHE" to teach our Personal, Social and Health Education. This includes the statutory RSHE (Relationships Education, Sex Education and Health Education) curriculum, with a strong emphasis on emotional and health education, both of which are interwoven into the curriculum.

Some of the lessons, within this programme, help the learners understand the changes that puberty brings and how human reproduction happens. Each year group will be taught at their chronological age or developmental age, where appropriate, based on each learner's needs and will build on the previous years' learning. This will start with the younger learners being taught how to identify external parts of the human body, using scientific names which will help with the later years, when they will discuss puberty in more depth.

Parental Right to withdraw.

As part of 'the GAT Relationship and Sex Education Policy' shared with Parents / Carers back in November 2023. Parents/Carers do not have the right to withdraw their children from Relationship Education, in line with the guidance that Relationship Education in England is compulsory in all schools. However, Parents / Carers have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory/non-science components of sex education within RSE. Parents are not permitted to withdraw their child from the Sex Education included in the National Curriculum Science, as this is a statutory subject.

If you request for withdrawal from the RSE elements this should be put in writing and addressed to the Principal. The trust would expect the Principal to honour appropriate requests for withdrawal and meet with parents to discuss these in line with the DfE guidance. Alternative work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from sex education.

If you have any question regarding the teaching of Relationship Education, please do see our website for further information. [Medeshamstede Academy - Relationships Education, Health Education and Sex Education](#).

Your Sincerely

Mrs R Hansord
Health and Wellbeing Curriculum Lead

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