

Dear Parents,

You may recall our CEO, Mr Thomas, writing a letter to you a couple of weeks ago explaining how the Department of Education introduced the compulsory teaching of Relationships and Health Education back in September 2020. He highlighted that due to the disruption of Covid-19 schools around the country have been given additional time to review their PSHE/RSE curriculum to ensure the children receive a curriculum that ensures they are well prepared for the future.

As a forward-thinking Trust, we started our preparations for the new RSHE curriculum back in 2019 and as a result of this we have been developing the use of planning and resources provided by the PSHE Association. This resource provides a detailed and comprehensive scheme of learning which meets all the requirements of the Department of Education's new Relationships, Sex and Health Education guidance.

The PSHE Association content covers all areas of PSHE and is organised to cover the following areas across the school year:

PRIMARY PSHE EDUCATION: LONG-TERM OVERVIEW – THEMATIC MODEL

	Autumn: Relationships			Spring: Living in the wider world			Summer: Health and Wellbeing		
	Families and friendships	Safe relationships	Respecting ourselves and others	Belonging to a community	Media literacy and digital resilience	Money and work	Physical health and Mental wellbeing	Growing and changing	Keeping safe
Year 1	Roles of different people; families; feeling cared for	Recognising privacy; staying safe; seeking permission	How behaviour affects others; being polite and respectful	What rules are; caring for others' needs; looking after the environment	Using the internet and digital devices; communicating online	Strengths and interests; jobs in the community	Keeping healthy; food and exercise, hygiene routines; sun safety	Recognising what makes them unique and special; feelings; managing when things go wrong	How rules and age restrictions help us; keeping safe online
Year 2	Making friends; feeling lonely and getting help	Managing secrets; resisting pressure and getting help; recognising hurtful behaviour	Recognising things in common and differences; playing and working cooperatively; sharing opinions	Belonging to a group; roles and responsibilities; being the same and different in the community	The internet in everyday life; online content and information	What money is; needs and wants; looking after money	Why sleep is important; medicines and keeping healthy; keeping teeth healthy; managing feelings and asking for help	Growing older; naming body parts; moving class or year	Safety in different environments; risk and safety at home; emergencies
Year 3	What makes a family; features of family life	Personal boundaries; safely responding to others; the impact of hurtful behaviour	Recognising respectful behaviour; the importance of self-respect; courtesy and being polite	The value of rules and laws; rights, freedoms and responsibilities	How the internet is used; assessing information online	Different jobs and skills; job stereotypes; setting personal goals	Health choices and habits; what affects feelings; expressing feelings	Personal strengths and achievements; managing and reframing setbacks	Risks and hazards; safety in the local environment and unfamiliar places
Year 4	Positive friendships, including online	Responding to hurtful behaviour; managing confidentiality; recognising risks online	Respecting differences and similarities; discussing difference sensitively	What makes a community; shared responsibilities	How data is shared and used	Making decisions about money; using and keeping money safe	Maintaining a balanced lifestyle; oral hygiene and dental care	Physical and emotional changes in puberty; external genitalia; personal hygiene routines; support with puberty	Medicines and household products; drugs common to everyday life
Year 5	Managing friendships and peer influence	Physical contact and feeling safe	Responding respectfully to a wide range of people; recognising prejudice and discrimination	Protecting the environment; compassion towards others	How information online is targeted; different media types, their role and impact	Identifying job interests and aspirations; what influences career choices; workplace stereotypes	Healthy sleep habits; sun safety; medicines, vaccinations and allergies	Personal identity; recognising individuality and different qualities; mental wellbeing	Keeping safe in different situations, including responding in emergencies, first aid and FGM
Year 6	Attraction to others; romantic relationships; civil partnership and marriage	Recognising and managing pressure; consent in different situations	Expressing opinions and respecting other points of view, including discussing topical issues	Valuing diversity; challenging discrimination and stereotypes	Evaluating media sources; sharing things online	Influences and attitudes to money; money and financial risks	What affects mental health and ways to take care of it; managing change, loss and bereavement; managing time online	Human reproduction and birth; increasing independence; managing transition	Keeping personal information safe; regulations and choices; drug use and the law; drug use and the media

Growing and Changing

We want our children to learn to understand and respect our common humanity, diversity and differences so that they can go on to form the effective, fulfilling relationships that are an essential part of life and learning. The grid below shows specific RSE learning intentions for each year group in the 'Growing and Changing' that will be taught during the Summer Term.

Growing and Changing	
Year	Content Covered
1	<p>Recognising what makes us unique and special; feelings; managing when things go wrong</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to recognise what makes them special and unique including their likes, dislikes and what they are good at how to manage and whom to tell when finding things difficult, or when things go wrong how they are the same and different to others about different kinds of feelings how to recognise feelings in themselves and others how feelings can affect how people behave
2	<p>Growing older; naming body parts; moving class or year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> about the human life cycle and how people grow from young to old how our needs and bodies change as we grow up to identify and name the main parts of the body including external genitalia (e.g. vulva, vagina, penis, testicles) about change as people grow up, including new opportunities and responsibilities preparing to move to a new class and setting goals for next year
3	<p>Personal strengths and achievements; managing and reframing setbacks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that everyone is an individual and has unique and valuable contributions to make to recognise how strengths and interests form part of a person's identity how to identify their own personal strengths and interests and what they're proud of (in school, out of school) to recognise common challenges to self-worth e.g. finding school work difficult, friendship issues basic strategies to manage and reframe setbacks e.g. asking for help, focusing on what they can learn from a setback, remembering what they are good at, trying again
4	<p>Physical and emotional changes in puberty; external genitalia, personal hygiene routines; support with puberty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> how to identify external genitalia and reproductive organs about the physical and emotional changes during puberty key facts about the menstrual cycle and menstrual wellbeing, erections and wet dreams strategies to manage the changes during puberty including menstruation the importance of personal hygiene routines during puberty including washing regularly and using deodorant how to discuss the challenges of puberty with a trusted adult how to get information, help and advice about puberty
5	<p>Personal identity; recognising individuality and different qualities, mental wellbeing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> about personal identity and what contributes to it, including race, sex, gender, family, faith, culture, hobbies, likes/dislikes that for some people their gender identity does not correspond with their biological sex how to recognise, respect and express their individuality and personal qualities ways to boost their mood and improve emotional wellbeing about the link between participating in interests, hobbies and community groups and mental wellbeing
6	<p>Human reproduction and birth; increasing independence; managing transition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to recognise some of the changes as they grow up e.g. increasing independence about what being more independent might be like, including how it may feel about the transition to secondary school and how this may affect their feelings about how relationships may change as they grow up or move to secondary school practical strategies that can help to manage times of change and transition e.g. practising the bus route to secondary school identify the links between love, committed relationships and conception what sexual intercourse is, and how it can be one part of an intimate relationship between consenting adults how pregnancy occurs i.e. when a sperm meets an egg and the fertilised egg settles into the lining of the womb that pregnancy can be prevented with contraception about the responsibilities of being a parent or carer and how having a baby changes someone's life

All lessons will be taught using simple, child-friendly language and pictures, which help children understand changes more effectively.

The key concepts that children learn in Jigsaw are inner strength, self-esteem and resilience. These are really important as they help keep children safe and it helps them make healthy decisions later in life.

Withdrawal from RSE Lessons

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the Relationships and Sex Education provided at school **except for those parts included in statutory National Curriculum Science**. Those parents wishing to exercise this right are invited in to see the head teacher and/or PSHE lead who will explore any concerns and discuss any impact that withdrawal may have on the child. Once a child has been withdrawn they cannot take part in the RSE programme until the request for withdrawal has been removed. Materials are available to parents/carers who wish to supplement the school RSE programme or who wish to deliver RSE to their children at home.

If you are considering withdrawing your child out of RSE lessons within PSHE, please consider the following:

- All the other children in your child's class will have been taught this information and may well talk to your child about it, perhaps in the playground... and potentially mislead them or confuse them as a result. It may prove far better to allow experienced and sensitive teaching staff to teach your child in a progressive, developmental way that is grounded in research.
- They will be learning about reproduction in Science lessons. The RSE in PSHE will echo this and will concentrate on teaching children how to enjoy healthy, appropriate relationships, improve self-esteem and self-confidence, and make healthy, informed choices. When viewed this way, it is hoped that RSE won't be seen as contentious or a cause for concern, but rather as helpful.

It is clear that the Covid-19 pandemic will have had an impact on the mental health and wellbeing of children across the country. Due to this, it is important to all of our staff that we continue to prioritise RSHE content based on the needs of pupils, with particular attention to the importance of positive relationships, as well as mental and physical health. We believe RSHE should be a partnership between the school and the parents/carers, working for every child's safety and benefit. With this in mind we have placed our new policy on the website for you to look at. I am very eager to gather your feedback concerning the content and in order to do this I will be sending out a link to a questionnaire via ParentPay next week. Your views are very important to us here at High Bickington Academy, so if you can spare the time to complete the questionnaire it would be very much appreciated.

Best wishes,

Rob Norton

Head of School



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