



7<sup>th</sup> September 2020

**RELATIONSHIPS, SEX EDUCATION AND HEALTH EDUCATION POLICY**

Dear Parents/Carers,

As a part of your child's educational experience at Parkside Community Primary School we aim to promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive programme of Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education that gives the children the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live healthy and safe lives, both now and in the future.

From September 2020 the Department for Education is making Relationships Sex Education and Health Education compulsory in all schools. *What does the new guidance mean?* The new guidance focuses on developing children's understanding of healthy relationships and keeping children safe in the modern world. It also covers a wide range of topics relating to; physical and mental health, wellbeing, safeguarding and healthy relationships. Learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up will give the children the information, skills and positive values to have safe, fulfilling relationships and will help them take responsibility for their own well-being. Sessions will be age-appropriate and meet the needs of all pupils in the class through a carefully structured approach.

*How will the programme be delivered?*

- The new guidance will form part of our school's PSHE education programme which is taught in every year group and is monitored and reviewed regularly by the staff and Governing Body.
- All teaching in PSHE will take place in a safe learning environment and is underpinned by our school ethos and values. A variety of opportunities will be provided for pupils to ask questions to further their understanding and to find out more about what affects them personally.
- *What if I have questions?* To introduce parents to this concept and to ensure everyone is informed, we would ask you to review the draft policy and the statutory content of the relationships and sex education programme. The draft policy also contains important information for parents who may wish to withdraw their children from these classes. As a parent or carer you do have the right to request your child is removed from parts of the programme, but we feel confident that the content is both relevant and appropriate for the age group. You will also find a question and answer document that has been issued by Herts for Learning that addresses a range of frequently asked questions you may have about the teaching RSE linked to the policy.

If there is an aspect of the curriculum overview that you would like to know more about please feel free to contact Mr Soyka to discuss this. ***It is important to clarify that withdrawal of your child can be considered only for content that is not part of the statutory science curriculum.***

As a school community, we are committed to working with parents. If you would like to find out more, make any comments or provide feedback on this draft policy, please contact [head@parkside.herts.sch.uk](mailto:head@parkside.herts.sch.uk)  
The closing date for feedback is Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

Yours sincerely

Headteacher

