



Inspiring Learning, Achieving Excellence

Headteacher: Mr Adam Shelley MEd, BSc Hons, PGCE, NPQH

April 2022

Dear Parents

Re: Relationships and Sex Education

As part of your child's education at The Sir John Colfox Academy, we promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education programme. PSHE is the curriculum subject that gives young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live safe, healthy, productive lives and meet their full potential.

This term your child's class will be taking part in lessons which will focus on Relationships and Sex Education (RSE). RSE lessons will include teaching about a range of themes, including healthy relationships with friends and intimate relationships; families; growing and changing (including puberty); personal hygiene; changing feelings; becoming more independent; keeping safe and giving consent. During these lessons students will have opportunities to ask questions to help prepare them for relationships of all kinds in the modern world.

PSHE is taught throughout the school in every year group and is monitored and reviewed regularly. We have carefully structured our PSHE programme so that content is age appropriate, and themes are revisited in a 'spiral' fashion as children grow older. The school's website has details of the curriculum, on this page you will also find details of the RSE curriculum by year group. <https://www.colfox.org/pshe/>

The statutory guidance for RSE and Health Education came into effect in all secondary schools from September 2020. This means that parents will not be able to withdraw their child from any aspect of Relationships Education or Health Education. Parents will be able to withdraw their child (following discussion with the school) from any or all aspects of Sex Education, other than those which are part of the science curriculum, up to and until three terms before the age of 16.

As a school community, we are committed to working in partnership with parents. Our aim is to help students make the right lifestyle decisions through engagement with PSHE. If you would like to find out more or discuss any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact either of us at school.

Yours sincerely

Adam Teasdale
Head of Sixth Form and Personal Development and Wellbeing

Rebecca Hatch
Lead of PSHE



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