

Relationship and Sex Education Consultation

This consultation begins on Monday 6th July 2020 and will close on Friday 24th July 2020.

Dear Parents/Carers,

As a part of your child's educational experience at Wrenbury Primary School, we aim to support every child's personal development, behaviour and wellbeing and have been acknowledged as 'Outstanding' for the work we do by Ofsted (Jan 2018). Our PD, B and Wellbeing approach, through our ethos 'We all matter', aims to give our children the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live healthy, safe, productive and fulfilled lives, both now and in the future. Some of the work we do falls under the umbrella of our Relationship and Sex Education Policy. When drawing up the original policy, I was able to invite a group of parents in, who represented our school community, to meet with me and consult on the policy development.

Moving forward, you may already be aware that the Department for Education has announced changes to *relationships and sex education* following nationwide consultation. These changes will come into effect from September 2020 and all schools will be required to comply with the updated requirements. The statutory guidance can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education>

The new guidance focuses on 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 our children and young people the information, skills and positive values to have safe, fulfilling relationships and help them take responsibility for their own well-being. Much of what is being made statutory is already a part of what we do at Wrenbury and is delivered through our themed Wellbeing Lunch Clubs as well as our Health and Wellbeing Weeks. It is also usual for us to invite the school nurse in to give a Growing up talk to our Y5 and 6.

From September 2020, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), along with Health Education, will be statutory, and form part of the National Curriculum.

This means that we have been reviewing our RSE curriculum and policy so we can be sure our RSE provision is appropriate for our pupils based on their:

- Age
- Physical and emotional maturity
- Religious and cultural backgrounds
- Special educational needs and disabilities

Whilst I am sure that there will be differences of opinion about this, we hope that consulting with you will help to inform our schools' decisions on when and how certain content is covered, and enable us to reach a general consensus.

Consequently, as part of our curriculum review we would like your views on:

- Our draft policy for Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)
- The draft termly overview and when and how certain content within this subject is covered.

What is taught, and how, is ultimately a decision for the school and consultation does not provide a parental veto on curriculum content as schools are legally required to teach the National Curriculum. The right to withdraw children from some lessons is explained in the draft policy.

As a school community, we are currently in unprecedented times which make it a little more challenging to consult with you. To help you understand the curriculum requirements, I have placed information on our website, which I would encourage you to read.

On our website, I have included:

- a summary of what all pupils are expected to know by the end of primary school,
- Our proposed draft Policy for Relationships, Sex and Health Education
- DfE guidance that outlines statutory requirements.
- A copy of the consultation questionnaire that will be emailed out to you

These can all be found on our school website in the **Parents** Section: Relationships & Sex Education (RSE) Consultation.

Wrenbury Primary School will be starting their consultation process on Monday 6th July 2020, the consultation will close on the 24th July 2020.

Consultation Questions (on the questionnaire).

1. Would you like support at home, on how to speak to your child about relationship and sex?
2. Are there any changes or additions that you think should be made to the RSE Policy?
3. Are there any changes or additions that you think should be made to the RSE Curriculum Outline?
4. Thinking about relationships and sex education, what do you believe is the most important subject area that should be taught for different age groups/key stages and why?
5. Thinking about relationships and sex education, is there an area that you think should not be taught for different age groups/key stages and why?

Your views are very important to us so please do share them by return of email. We will respond to you on the outcome of this process by the end of the summer break. Once we have considered all the feedback, the finalised Relationships and Sex Education Policy will be uploaded to the school's website which will also set out the proposed curriculum.

I hope this letter and attached information goes some way to answer any questions you may have. If you have any queries or concerns regarding the consultation process, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely,
Bessa Cador
Headteacher